THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF

ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY

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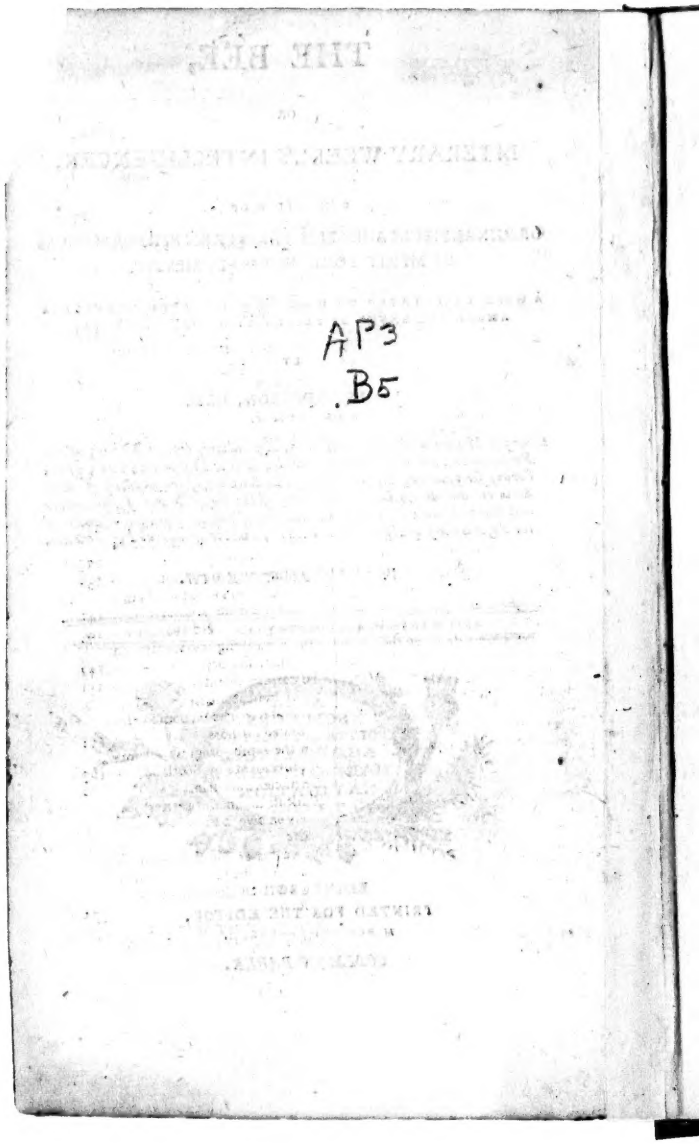

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Engraved for the Bee.

Mr Willm Berry.

Seal Engraver.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6. 1793.

HINTS RESPECTING MR WILLIAM BERRY,

SEAL ENGRAVER IN EDINBURGH.

With a portrait.

WILLIAM BERRY was one of those artists who owed more to nature than instruction. Like Raphael, Guido, and some others, his mind opened for himself a route, that made him attain to a perfection far beyond the views of his preceptor. He was bred to the business of a seal engraver by Mr Proctor, of Edinburgh, whose sole employment was cutting coats of arms for the nobility and gentry in Scotland; and who, though respectable in his moral character, never attained to such eminence

in his profeſsion, as to make his name be known as an artist out of his own country.

For some years after Mr Berry began buſineſs on his own account, he pursued the same line with his teacher; but his designs were so elegant, and his mode of cutting so clean and ſharp, as soon to make him be taken notice of as a superior artist. He did not, however, venture to do any *heads* in the stile of the *antique* entaglio's for several years; but by constantly studying and admiring these, he at last resolved to attempt something of that sort himself; and the subject he chose for this eſsay was a head of Sir Isaac Newton, which he executed in a stile of such superior excellence, as astoniſhed all who had an opportunity of observing it. But as Mr Berry was himself a man of the most unaffected modesty, and as this head was given to a friend in a retired situation in life, it was only known to a few in the private circle of his acquaintance; and for many years was scarcely ever seen by any one who could justly appreciate its merit; and was totally unknown in that circle of the great, which alone can afford to grant a proper reward for works of superior excellence. Owing to these circumstances, Mr Berry was permitted to waste his time, during the best part of his life, in cutting heraldic seals, for which he found a much greater demand than for fine heads, at such a price as could indemnify him for the time that was neceſsarily spent in bringing works of such superior excellence to perfection. He often told the writer of this paper, that though some gentlemen preſsed him very much to make fine heads for them,

yet he always found when he did a thing of that sort, that when he gave in his bill, though he had charged perhaps not more than half the money for it, that he could have earned in the same time at his ordinary work, they always seemed to think the price too high; which made him exceedingly averse to engage in any thing of that sort.

Yet notwithstanding these considerations, the impulse of genius got so much the better of prudential considerations, that he executed, during the course of his life, perhaps ten or a dozen of heads, any one of which would have been sufficient to insure him immortal fame among judges of excellence in this department. Among these were heads of Thomson the author of the Seasons, Mary queen of Scots, Oliver Cromwell, Julius Cæsar, a young Hercules, and Mr Hamilton of Bangour, a gentleman of Scotland, well known there, on account of some beautiful poetical effusions. Of these only two were copies from the antique; and they were executed in the finest stile of these celebrated entaglio's. The young Hercules, in particular, which, if I mistake not, belongs to the earl of Findlater, poſseſsed that unaffected plain simplicity, and natural concurrence in the same expreſsion of youthful innocence through all the features, conjoined with strength and dignity, which is, perhaps, the most difficult of all expreſsions to be hit off by the faithful imitator of nature. Like as a player finds it much leſs difficult to imitate any extravagant violence of character, than to represent with truth and perspicuity, the elegant ease of the gentleman; so the painter can much more easily de-

lineate the most violent contortions of countenance, than that placid serenity, to expreſs which requires a nice discrimination of such infinitely small degrees of variation in certain lineaments, as totally elude the observation of men, on whose mind nature has not impreſsed, with an irresistible hand, that infinitely nice perceptive faculty, which constitutes the eſsence of genius in the fine arts.

Berry poſseſsed this faculty in such a high degree, as to prove even a bar to his attaining that supereminent excellence in this department, which nature had evidently qualified him for. Even in his best performances, *he*, himself, thought he perceived defects, which no one else remarked; and which the circumstances above alluded to, prevented him from correcting. While others admired with unbounded applause, *he* looked upon his own performances with a kind of vexation, at finding the execution not to have attained the high perfection he conceived to be attainable. And not being able to afford the time to perfect himself in that nice department of his art, this made him extremely averse to attempt it.

Yet in spite of this aversion, the few pieces above named, and some others, were extorted from him by degrees, and they came gradually to be known; and wherever they were known, they were admired, as superior to every thing produced in modern times, unleſs it was by Piccler alone at Rome; who in the same line, but with much greater practice in it, had justly attained a high degree of celebrity. Between the excellence of these two artists, connoiſseurs dif-

fered in opinion; some being inclined to give the palm to Berry, while others preferred Piccler. The works of these two artists were well known to each other; and each declared, with that manly kind of ingenuousneſs, which superior genius alone can confer on the human mind, that the other was greatly his superior. Berry admired the works of Piccler with the most unqualified approbation; and the writer of this article, thinks he never gave such high satisfaction, by a small mark of attention, as he gave to Mr Berry, by giving him an impreſsion of the head of the present pope Braschi, done by Piccler, which he had got from Mr Byres, the gentleman whose animated vindication of the Scotch, makes such a conspicuous figure in Moore's travels in Italy.

Mr Berry poſseſsed not merely the art of imitating busts, or figures set before him, in which he could observe and copy the prominence, or the depreſsion of the parts; but he poſseſsed a faculty which presupposes a much nicer discrimination, *viz.* that of being able to execute a figure in *relievo*, with perfect justneſs in all its parts, which was copied from a drawing or painting upon a flat surface. This was fairly put to the test in the head he executed of Hamilton of Bangour. That gentleman had been dead some years, when his relations wiſhed to have a head of him executed by Berry. Mr Berry had never himself seen Mr Hamilton, and there remained no picture of him but an imperfect ſketch, which was by no means a striking likeneſs. This was put into the hands of Mr Berry, to serve

as a model for him to work upon, by a person who had known Mr Hamilton very well, and who pointed out the defects of the painting in the best way that words can be made to correct things of this nature; and from this picture, with the ideas that Mr Berry had imbibed from the corrections, he made a head, which every one who knew Mr Hamilton, allowed to be one of the most perfect likeneſses that could be wiſhed for. In this, as in all his works, there was a correctneſs in the outline, and a truth and delicacy in the expreſsion of the features, highly emulous of the best antiques; which were indeed the models on which he formed his taste.

Besides the heads above named, he also executed some full length figures, both of men and other a-animals, in a stile of superior elegance. But that attention to the interests of a numerous family, which a man of sound principles, as Mr Berry was, could never allow him to lose sight of, made him forego these amusing exertions, for the more lucrative, though leſs pleasing employment, of cutting heraldic seals, which may be said to have been his constant employment from morning to night, for forty years together, with an aſsiduity that has few examples in modern times. In this department he was without dispute the first artist of his time; but even here, that modesty, which was so peculiarly his own, and that invariable desire to give full perfection to ever thing he put out of his hands, prevented him from drawing such emolument from his labours as he might, and ought to have done. Of this the following anecdote, which consists with the perfect

knowledge of the writer, will serve as an example and illustration.

The duke of B————h, when he succeeded to his estate, was desirous of having a seal cut with his arms, &c. properly blazoned upon it. But as there were no lefs than thirty-two compartments in the fhield, which was of neceſsity confined to a very small space, so as to leave room for the supporters, and other ornaments, within the compafs of a seal of an ordinary size, he found it a matter of great difficulty to get it executed. Though a native of Scotland himself, the duke never expected to find a man of the first rate eminence in Edinburgh; but applied to the most eminent seal engravers in London and in Paris, all of whom declined to do it, as a thing that exceeded their power to execute. At this his grace was highly disappointed; and having expreſsed to a gentleman, who was on a visit to him, the vexation he felt on this occasion, the gentleman, who knew Mr Berry, aſked if he had applied to Mr Berry. "No, (said the duke;) I did not think of finding any one in Edinburgh, who could execute a taſk that exceeded the powers of the first artists in London and Paris." The gentleman said he was in a mistake; and that he would undertake that Berry could execute it. The duke, impatient to try, went to Edinburgh with the gentleman next morning, who called upon Mr Berry, whom he found, as usual, sitting at his wheel. Without introducing the duke, or saying any thing particular to Mr Berry, he just fhowed him an impreſsion of a seal that the duchefs dowager had got cut a good

many years before, by a Jew in London, who was dead before the duke thought of his seal, and which had been ſhown to the others as a pattern, aſking him if he would cut a seal the same with that. After examining it a little, Mr Berry answered readily that he would. The duke, pleased and astoniſhed at the same time, cried out, " Will you by G—d !" Mr Berry, who thought this implied some sort of doubt of his abilities, was a little piqued at it; and turning round to the duke, whom he had never seen before, nor knew; ' Yes (said he,) Sir; if I do not make a better seal than this, I ſhall take no payment for it.' The duke, highly pleased, left the pattern with Mr Berry, and went away. The pattern seal contained, indeed, the various devices on the thirty-two compartments, distinctly enough to be seen, but none of the colours were expreſsed. Mr Berry, in a proper time, finiſhed the seal; on which the figures were not only done with superior elegance, but the colours on every part so distinctly marked, that a painter could delineate the whole, or a herald blazon it, with the most perfect accuracy. For this extraordinary exertion of talents, he charged no more than *thirty-two* guineas, though the pattern seal had cost *seventy-five*. Thus it was, that, notwithstanding he poſsesſsed talents of the most superior kind, and aſsiduity almost unequalled, observing at all times a strict economy in his family, Mr Berry died at last, in circumstances that were not affluent; which adds one more to the numerous list of examples, that genius seldom tends to augment the domestic prosperity of man. And that

unleſs a man of eminence in arts appreciates his own works properly, and is ſo fortunately ſituated as to be brought forward to public view, during his own life time, he may be ſuffered to live neglected, and die without having taſted of the fruits of that genius.

Beſides eminence as an artiſt, Mr Berry occupied a high degree of reſpect among the circle of his acquaintance, on account of the integrity of his moral character, and the ſtrict principles of honour which on all occaſions influenced his conduct. He married a daughter of Mr Andrew Anderſon of Dreſſalrig, a man of the ſtrictest probity, with whom he lived in habits of the moſt cordial intimacy. By her he left a numerous family of children, who now promiſe to become diſtinguiſhed members of the community to which they belong.

Mr Berry died on the third of June 1783, in the fifty-third year of his age.

The portrait from which this engraving is taken, is a very ſtriking likeneſs, which the engraver, with his uſual ability, has happily catched in the figure that accompanies this number.

ANECDOTE.

Augustus, king of Poland, had paſſed for a prodigy of ſtrength. At the table of the emperor, he took a ſilver diſh, in which there was wine, and having made a globe of it, confined the wine in it cloſe every way; then squeezing it with his fingers, made the wine play to the very roof of the apartment.

Original Anecdotes of Hunting.

For the Bee.

Hunting, to those who derive the ideas on that subject from what they observe in highly civilized countries, can only be considered as a frivolous amusement; but if they extend their views to an early state of society, where man is forced to contend for dominion with the ferocious beasts of the desert, or to find a subsistence from the animals he can subdue, it becomes a subject highly interesting. An eastern prince, at a very early period, was celebrated as "a mighty hunter before the Lord;" and the names of Hercules and Theseus have become immortal because of their peculiar eminence in this art. Indeed nothing so much discovers the vast pre-eminence that man enjoys above all the other parts of the animate creation as the history of hunting. Ransack every corner of the globe, in every state of society you find man poſſeſs a decided dominion over all other animals. By observing their faculties, their habits, and propensities, he learns equally to subdue the ſtrongeſt, and to overtake the ſwifteſt of the animate creation. Nothing eludes his graſp; and the ingenuity that the moſt ſavage tribes diſcover, in the art of overcoming the animals that moleſt them, or thoſe that miniſter to their ſubſiſtence, will often fill with aſtoniſhment the minds of the moſt civiliſed people. It is these uncultivated people alone, who from neceſſity are obliged to ſtudy the manners of the brute creation with attention, that civiliſed nations can acquire a proper knowledge of these creatures. To the naturaliſt, therefore, the hiſtory of hunting muſt prove extremely intereſting, and to no man can they prove indifferent.

For the anecdotes reſpecting hunting in Ruſſia, that ſhall occur under this head, the Editor is obliged to his reſpectable correſpondent *Arcticus*. For thoſe reſpecting the American Indians, he is indebted to Mr Patrick Campbell, who has been ſo obliging as to allow him to extract with freedom, from his "Travels in North America," now in the preſs, many very curious articles of this kind, which will be marked as they occur.

Mode of hunting the bear in Ruſſia.

To encourage the peaſants not to deſtroy the bear clandeſtinely amongſt themſelves, for the ſkin, hams, grease, &c. (all profitable articles;) at leaſt not to deſtroy them in a certain diſtrict round Pe-

terſburgh, within the range of the imperial hunt, an edict offers, for every bear *pointed out by a peasant*, a sack or cool of corn for seed, with ten rubles in money, which he receives at the grand huntsman's office in St Peterſburgh; and when it is considered what they lose by not killing it themselves, by the destruction of their corn, and by the time employed in coming to town, and attending the chace, the reward is not too great.

First bear chace.

Four winters ago, a peasant having given information at the grand Veneur's office, prince Galitzen, of a bear having been found in a wood about twenty versts beyond her majesty's country palace of Ranenbome, the Veneur Potemkin, the second in the department of the imperial hunt, set out in pursuit of it, with a number of huntsmen, armed, as is usual on these occasions, with guns, spears, and cutlaſses, or *des couteaux de chaſe*. The Veneur was accompanied on this occasion, by the two senators count Alexy Rosomof ſky, and Mr de Sadouoff ſky, with the master of the horse, general Ribender, and Mr John Farquharson, a Britiſh gentleman, and a keen sportsman *. On the arrival of the party in the indicated wood, the peasant pointed out the winter habitation of the bear, who at that season is remarkably lazy; the hunters immediately took two pieces of thread net, such as is used to catch partridges, and after cutting a little avenue through the bruſh wood with their cutlaſses, for some way behind and before the bear, lined the walk they had thus cut out for the animal,

* I mention these names on this occasion, as some of the facts may appear too wonderful to be believed without this precaution.

with the two long pieces of net, a fence, weak as it may appear, which that strong and furious animal never ventures to break; so that they are sure he will endeavour to escape in the direction of the avenue, at each end of which, certain death awaits him, from the gentlemen hunters at one, and the huntsmen at the other. This preliminary arrangement being made, the huntsmen began to make as much noise behind him as posible, to drive him in the opposite direction, where the gentlemen were waiting in silence to shoot at him on his approach, supported by a rank of spearsmen, who advance in case of the hunters missing their aim, and being assailed by the furious animal, rendered always so by the discharge of a gun, especially if he is wounded.

There happened not ing worth mentioning in this first chace, except that the bear, instead of running in the expected direction, from the noise, towards the noble sportsmen, turned suddenly on the hallooing huntsmen, and overturned one of them (though without injury,) before he was dispatched by the rest.

It is curious, however, to observe, in the above simple arrangement, the wonderful effect of the thread net, which sets as effectual bounds to the liberty and course of such a vigorous animal, as if made of bars of iron; such is his instinctive aversion to what has the appearance of a toil; and it is likewise singular that the Russians should have discovered this trait in bruin's character, which I presume is new even to your able writer on the philosophy of natural history; as may posibly be another in the character of the black game to be mentioned farther on.

Second bear chace.

Another monstrous bear, whom a single huntsman met within about an hour after, whilst at a distance from his companions, beating about for game, afforded an uncommon instance of strength, and courage alluded to in the note. The noise the two made, drew the party of gentlemen to the spot, who happened to be nearer it than the profesional huntsmen; and they were astoniſhed to find a large bear on his hind legs, fighting with a man, who happened to be without his *couteau de chaſse*, the useful and usual weapon on such occasions. The bold fellow held the bear, taller than himself, by the ear, at arm's length, with his right hand, and with the left was striking him on the opposite side of the head, every time he offered to bite or claw the extended arm, which kept him from being hugged. Count Alexy Rosomofſky, much alarmed for the safety of the huntsman, with the rest of the company, called him to let go the animal that they might ſhoot him, or he certainly would be destroyed; but the hardy Ruſsian replied, that the bear *was only in joke*, although he had already clawed his face in such a manner, that no one knew which of the men it was, thus engaged in single combat. At this moment a number of his companions came running up, and instead of attempting to kill the bear, instantly took off their belts; and coming behind the animal, still struggling with their comrade, and growling as they do when attacked, slipt one belt into his mouth, a couple more round his body, and carried him off alive.

Third bear chace.

Since the above mentioned hunt, an old superannuated huntsman, retired on a pension, and living in a hut not far from Paulofsky, the summer palace of the great duke, killed another large bear when quite alone, with his *conteau de chasse*.

The old sportsman had fallen unexpectedly on a bear, whilst sauntering in the woods in search of other game. The noise of his gun, probably fired close to the animal without knowing it, brought him upon the old man, unable to save himself by flight; he therefore drew his side arm, and as the bear rose to hug him, plunged it so fortunately into its belly, as to lay it dead at his feet. He then went home, and having procured a boor's cart, conveyed his prey to his imperial highness, who was so charmed with the bold veteran, that he gave him an hundred rubles for hi aged prowess, and ordered him to keep the skin as a trophy of it, which he did, and shows to this day with much pride.

Fourth bear chace.

When upon this subject it is worth while to mention the manner in which the hunters attack the bear, when only three in number, the least that venture on that dangerous business, with a premeditated design.

When one is found, the three sportsmen take their station at a certain distance and direction from one another; one of them fires at the animal, on which he immediately makes towards him; the second then fires to draw him to the other side, and the third does the same, to give him a third direction. By the time these manœuvres are executed, the

first sportsman has time to load again, and in this manner they fire and load alternately, till they have dispatched their game.

Mode of tracing the bear in summer.

There is still another curious circumstance attending the Ruſsian bear hunt, and that is the manner the peasants trace them out in summer, by what may be called, in sporting language, *their form*, with the method they have of judging of his size by it, although, properly speaking, it is only the form of his hinder parts, and not of his whole body.

The bear is fond of corn, and makes a great havoc among it by the quantity he consumes, and the quantity he treads under foot; but the manner of his feeding on it is very remarkable, especially as it is in that act, he leaves what the peasants call his *form*, in the earth, and by which they trace him from one part to another during his feeding season.

On this animals finding a field of corn to his taste, either in the milky or ripe state of the grain, he chooses out a soft spot amongst it, free from stones, where he sits down on his buttocks, and eats all round him as far as he can reach, turning on his buttocks as a center; so as to make a hole or print in the ground, round and smooth like a large bason. This ascertains to the peasant the size of hi ind quarters, and measuring from that to the cropped circle in the corn all around, they judge of his length; as the lazy animal never quits his seat to eat further than the utmost reach of his muzzle and paws, but removes to a freſh spot, when all is consumed near him, and begins the same buſineſs over again. These prints or forms, then, by their comparative freſh-

neſs, apprize the peasants of their approach to the enemy they are tracing. So that the discovery of the bear in summer, depends on this second remarkable trait in bruin's character, which I must own was new to me, as it may probably be to some more of your readers.

Mode of hunting the bear in Finland.

The Finiſh peasants, a very different race from the Ruſsians, mark the difference of their characters, by the leſs dangerous and active mode they hunt the bear; and although I believe their stratagems are better known to Europe, than those I have given above, I ſhall however relate them likewise as practised in Ruſsia.

The Fin erects, about the middle of a tree, in the bears favourite haunts, a species of small round scaffold, much in the stile, whether for form or position, of one of the *tops* of a ſhip; on this he sits secure, and waits with patience the arrival of the animal at the foot of the tree, attracted by honey, or some other favourite food, placed there as a bait, and ſhoots at him through holes made in his stage. But ſhould he only wound, instead of killing the bear, the animal is stopped in its furious course up the tree, which he climbs like a cat, by the round top, which sets bound to his pursuit, and gives the secure hunter still a more favourable opportunity of dispatching him. He is likewise always armed with an ax, to chop off his paws, ſhould they appear above the stage, in attempting to mount it; so that this species of hunting, in use amongst the Fins subject to Ruſsia, (much inferior to their Swediſh brethren) may be almost said to be unattended with danger.

Account of a bear chace extracted from Mr Campbell's Travels in North America.

In one of these excursions, many stories were told me of the bears in this country; one of which, as being somewhat curious, I shall relate.

On an island, called *Spoon island*, which I had passed a day or two before, there were seven bears killed in one day. A gentleman and his son, near a house in which I then lodged, had been out working at hay, having pitch forks and rakes; and seeing a monstrous bear, quite close to the river, they pressed so hard upon him as to drive him into the water. They then thought they had him secure, as there was a boat near them, to which they immediately ran; and having pursued and come up with him, they struck and pelted him with the pitch forks and shafts till they broke them to pieces. The exasperated monster now, as they had no weapon to annoy him, turned the chace on his adversaries; and fixing his fore paws upon the gunnell of the boat, attempted to get in. They did all they could to keep him out, but their efforts were in vain;—he got in. So that at last they had nothing else for it, but either to jump out into the water, or stay in the boat and be torn to pieces. They chose the former, and swam a-shore. The bear, now master of the boat, whence the enemy battered him, was so severely galled with the strokes and wounds he had received, that he made no attempt to follow, but continued in the boat, otherwise he might

have soon overtaken them, and have had ample revenge, as he could swim three times faster than they.

They immediately ran to the house for guns, and when they came back, saw him sitting in the boat, and dipping one of his paws now and then in the water, and washing his wounds; on which, levelling their pieces, they shot him dead.

The landlord of the house I put up at, when this story was told, shewed me one of the paws of this bear, which, on account of its great size, he kept as a show; and added, that he was as big as any yearling calf. So that one may easily conceive the havock and destruction committed in a country so much infested with such monstrous and ravenous animals, especially on sheep, the simplest and silliest of all creatures, who fall an easy prey to beasts of far less strength and size. Many of these harmless, yet useful animals, were destroyed by bears in this very neighbourhood; where one man sustained the loss of thirty of his sheep within a short space; and even young cattle often were devoured, and carried off by them; yet they prefer swine, when they can get them, to any other meat.

FRAGMENTS OF LORD BACON.

INTRODUCTORY LETTER.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

DURING one of my late pedestrian journeis, to examine and glean the beauties and curiosities of this interesting island of Britain, I happened to be enter-

tained at the house of a venerable old widow lady, in the county of Brecknock, the heireſs of a ſmall Highland estate, to which ſhe had unluckily failed in bringing an heir.

In her hospitable, but decaying mansion, there was a portrait upon board, of no great excellence, save for its being an original of the great lord Bacon.

As I was gazing with great eagerneſs on this portrait, the good lady said to me, "You seem Sir to be a great admirer of lord Bacon, when you can fix so ravenously upon that poor picture of his person." 'Madam, (replied I,) how can I but doat upon the ſhell that contained such a wonderful kernel!' "My grandfather (rejoined the lady,) by my mother's side of the house, was a Rawley; and from him this picture came down to me, with a box of old papers, most of which have been used in the family for domestic purposes, as they lay all higgledy piggledy, and seemed to be nothing but jottings, and in a hand quite illegible. However, I gathered from these papers, that they were gotten at the same time with the picture, as the parson could here and there decypher, in the antick writing, the names of Bacon and Rawley; so I used no more of these papers, but made the parson look more attentively at them, who advised me to keep them, as they might contain some hints about my estate; and that he could trace out somewhat that seemed to relate to the good estate of the church."

Upon this, I aſked the lady's permiſsion to examine the box, which ſhe very frankly granted.

I had no sooner examined a few of the loose papers, which lay in chaotic confusion, than, to my great joy, I found severals, that, from their contexture, appeared to be parts of an esay on the art of life, and that they bore the strongest marks of the stile of the illustrious lord Bacon.

Stung with the most violent curiosity, and animated in my research by what I had seen, I intreated my kind hostes, to allow me, in her presence, or in the presence of the parson, to examine the whole mass, to which she readily consented; and the worthy clergyman waved his presence, on my promising him, upon my honour, if I found any thing relating to ecclesiastical affairs, in respect of tythes, that I would lay them aside, and transcribe them from the manuscripts.

Having seen much of the hand writing of Sir Francis Bacon, in the British museum, among Dr Birch's manuscripts, and in the Lambeth library, I looked all over the papers for the hand writing or signature of the philosopher, but found none, save two or three times on the margin, and in the interlineations.

As I observed morsels relating to a variety of subjects, I took one at a venture, with a view to find whether it might belong to any of the published esays of lord Bacon, and I chanced to light upon this, which with some slight differences, is in his fifteenth of the edited esays.

" The part of *Epimetheus* mought well become Prometheus in the cases of discontentments; for there is not a better provision or antidote against them.

" Epimetheus, when griefs and querulous evils were flying abroad, gave them free iſsue from the veſsel, and then heeſshut the lid and kept hope at the bottom."

Delighted with this coincidence, I earnestly sought for something of complete conte-ture, or at least sufficient to indicate the title and nature of the subject, that I might follow it out; for I observed that there were no running titles, or catch words on the margin, to facilitate the recovery of the tiſsue. After nine or ten hours indefatigable work, in turning over and over all the scraps, I got at last together the fragments of the eſsay *on the Art of Life*, which, from its stile, I suppose to have been intended for one of " *The Eſsayes and Counsels, Civil and Moral;*" and that it had been intended to be greatly enlarged, there being the following note, in the hand of the writer of the manuscript, on the margin of the piece upon Economy: " *This my lord intendeth to dilate and elucidate with tabills, pourtraying various modifications of expence.*"

Now for the fragments, which I claſs under the various subjects of them in their order, *viz.*

1*st*, Art of preserving and improving bodily health and strength.

2*dly*, Art of obtaining and preserving the habits of industry.

3*dly*, Art of acquiring and preserving a permanent reputation in domestic and social intercourse.

4*thly*, Art of regulating expences, with due but splendid economy.

5*thly*, In the rational, useful, and amusing employment of leisure.

6*thly*, In urbanity and politeneſs of manners, with due regard to our own interests.

7*thly*, In the habit of attention and observation, with respect to the operations of nature, and of society.

8*thly*, In the cultivation of such habits as terminate in an amiable, tranquil, and respectable old age.

9*thly*, And lastly, in a philosophical and religious preparation for death.

Fragments of Lord Bacon.

Art of Life.

* * * * It was a wise saying of the prince of physicians, and worthy of especiall note, that errors, in the first concoction, are seldom to be removed by a second; and soe it is in the regiment of health.

Habits of eating, drinking, and other corporeal pleasures, being once establiſhed by frequent usage, are with great difficulty superseded by others that are more salutiferous; which difficulty is exaggerated by the well known propenseneſs of youthful natures to food of a sapid or high flavoured quality, to liquors that are potent or saccharine, and to pleasures of all kinds that are violent.

The foundation, or plattform, therefore, of the art of life, must have been laid, I will not saye in the craddle, but certainly in the nursery of children, by judicious parents, and wise preceptors; who, by inclining their pupills to the uncontaminated use of

what our physcians verie strangely call the *non naturals*, doe fortify and secure that *Magna Charta* of human happinefs, so pithily abridged by the poet, "*Mens sana in corpore sano.*"

"Butter and honey ſhall hee eat, (sayeth the prophet of the Mesiah,) that hee may know to distinguiſh the good from the evill;" and certain it is, that as in the stomach are placed, and still more adjoining unto it, so many nerves of exquisite sensibility and sympathy, with the whole frame of man, soe every cause of ill coction or indigestion, must therein disturb the intellectual functions, and produce moral pravities never to be removed afterward by the power of humane reason.

Now in this, (not to speak of the grand reward that is to be looked for from the virtue of temperance,) wee may observe true Epicurism; since, even in our sensual dayes, the strength of delight is in its seldomneſs, and its abasement and destruction in its frequency and satiety.

Healthful and temperate poverty, hath the start of nauseating luxury; and the honest well earned appetite of excercise finds in one wholesome diſh, the sum of the far fetched dainties of Lucullus. Is it not also to be credited, that by due observance of the rules of temperance, and the regiment of our paſsions, humane life may not only be rendered much more rationall and delightfull, but moreover greatly prolonged, to a term (perhaps) of which at present wee have no conception?

From Hippocrates, Galen, Celsus, Avicenna, and all who have written most sagaciously and experi-

mentally upon the diseases of the human body, wee learn, that ill congested food, in the stomach and viscera, are the predisposing causes of disease, and of death itself as the consequence of the former.

And may wee not humbly conjecture that the impetus of the blood, and other humours, especially of the former, (as at this time most curiously set forth by that most acute and indefatigable physician, William Harvey,) may bee greatly increased by the frequent and violent affections of ungoverned passions, which are notoriously produced by excess, both in eating and in drinking?

And may wee not assert, with a great degree of confidence, drawn from general observation, and from the annals of the world, that continued temperance, wholesome exercitation of body, and pleasing equable occupation of the understanding; or an absence of disagreeable emotions, when the faculties of the soul are not employed, doe verily prolong humane life to an extraordinary extent? And I think it worthy to bee noted, that the greatest part of men, who have attained to an extraordinary age, have been in their youth temperate, and in their manhood and old age delightfully and uniformly employed; so as to obviate or prevent this desultory impetus of the blood and humours, whereupon wee humbly establish our conjecture.

Hippocrates, the observer of his own wise apothegms, attained the age of 104, though exposed to the continual hazards of attending the infectious diseased. Galen equalled Hippocrates in this goodly senectude. By Pliny wee are told that Asclepiades a

physician of Persia, reached the wonderfull age of an hundred and fifty. In the chronicle of Eusebius wee find the age of Sophocles the tragœdian, to have been one hundred and thirty; Democritus the philosopher, lived to an age equal to that of Hipocrates and Galen; and yet, what are these to Epimenides of Crete? who, according to Theopompus, a historian of unblemished reputation, lived to be upwards of one hundred and fifty-seven.

Wee know also from Pliny, that Euphranor gave lectures to his scholars after he was an hundred years old; and to come to our own times, and conclude this enumeration, the truly learned George Buchanan informs us, of a poor man, whose name was Laurence Hutland, in the Orkney isles of Scotland, who reached the age of an hundred and seventy.

Curiosity hath given occasion to sundry enumerations of the most aged persons, who have lived in various countries and periods of history; by examining which, it will evidently appear, that there is reason to be convinced of the principles whereupon wee conceive longevity and happiness to depend.

To be continued.

DETACHED REMARK.

THERE are some actions, which, however just, are disreputable, and can only be occasioned by rigid necessity, which ought not to be condemned, but lamented.

THE CONTENTED COTTAGER. A SCOTS SONG.

For the Bee.

FOR mony a year my dad he dwelt
Upon this little spot;
My master lik'd him, and likes me,
Why wish to change my lot?
Blefsings on the laird's fouk,
And weel may they be;
For O but they've been unco kind,
To father and to me.

II.

We've never wanted meal to bake,
Nor yet to mak the brose;
A gude grey coat upon our back,
And a warm pair of hose.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

III.

When Madge was sick, and like to die,
And heavy was my heart,
Madam cam' o'er the gate hersel',
And fhow'd the couthy part.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

IV.

Lang did fhe sit beside the bed,
And bade the bairns nae greet;
For mammy would be weel again,
And soon upon her feet.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

V.

She gave her wine and cordials,
And Madge began to mend;
O what a joy was this to me!
The best that heav'n could send.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

VI

They took our dochter to their house,
Learn'd her to work and sew;
The laird's man, Johnny, fancies her,—
Nae fear but he'll be true.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

VII.

They put my eldest to the school,
It cost me not a doit;
He's clever, tho' I sai't mysel',
And weel can read and write.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

VIII.

There lives upon yon sunny brae,
A brisk young maiden fair;
And when at e'en his wark is done,
Rob rins right aften there.
Blefsings on the laird's fouk, &c.

IX.

But yet he says he will awa,
To serve his country's cause;
Nae ill come o'er him, or the king,
The nation, or the laws.
I love my king, and wish him free
Frae a' that would distrefs him;
And I do love my master dear,
Wi' a' my heart I'll blefs him.

TRANSLATION BY CAPT. FORD, BELIEVED TO BE FROM THE PERSIAN.

[*From the Asiatic Miscellany, a Collection of pieces in prose and verse, publifhed in India.*]

DISGUIS'D last night, I ruth'd from home,
To seek the palace of my soul
I reach'd by silent steps the dome,
And to her chamber *softly* stole.

On a gay various couch reclin'd,
In sweet repose I saw the maid;
My breast, like aspins to the wind,
To love's alarum *softly* play'd.

My fingers, then, to half expanse
I trembling op'd, with fear opprest;
With these I pull'd her veil askance,
Then *softly* drew her to my breast.

"Who art thou, wretch!" my angel cried;
Whisp'ring I said, 'Thy slave! thy swain!
'But hush, my love! forbear to chide;
'Speak *softly*, lest some hear the strain.'

Trembling with love, with hope, and fear
At length her ruby lips I prest;
Sweet kisses oft,—mellifluous!—dear!
Softly I snatch'd,—was *softly* blest.

'O let me,' now inflam'd I said,
'My idol clasp thee to these arms;'
"Remove the light;" deep sigh'd the maid,
"Come *softly*!—Come!——prevent alarms."

Divine Intelligence exemplified in the Situation, Dissemination, and Properties of Vegetables.

For the Bee.

" Roll up your incense, herbs, and fruits, and flow'rs,
" In mingled clouds, to him whose sun exalts,
" Whose hand perfumes you, and whose pencil paints.
THOMSON."

I have been frequently surprised, (says the elegant and fanciful Rouſseau in his Emilius,) and sometimes ſhocked, in the reading of Nieuwenthiet.—What a presumption was it to sit down to make a book of those wonders of nature that display the wisdom of their author? Had his book been as big as the whole world, he would not have exhausted his subject; and no sooner do we enter into the *minutiæ* of things, than the greatest wonder of all escapes us:—that is, *the harmony and connection of the whole.*

This objection to the religious philosophy of natural history, I have often considered, without thinking it applicable to a judicious inquiry into the manifestation of divine intelligence and goodneſs in the works of nature. Raſhly to determine the finality of causes, is to be reprobated, as inconsistent with that humility, which ought to check a weak and ignorant creature, in exploring the administration of his Creator; but when the harmony and connection, and benefit, of all that we can see, is considered, and that the result is found to increase our confidence in the wisdom and goodneſs of providence, to tranquilize our hearts, and to enlighten our understandings, I can conceive no study more suitable to a rational and virtuous being, wiſhing to be aſsimilated to the supreme Pattern of wisdom and benevolence.

I have no occasion for any longer introduction, or more laboured apology; for I declare, what I am now about to write, is intended for ingenious young men, incorrupted by false gloomy philosophy, and for that charming sex, whose interests, reputation, and happiness, has so often employed my pen in this chaste and instructive Miscellany.

I seek not to surprise with paradoxes, to perplex with enigmas, or to dazzle with eloquence and wit.

I seek rather to fortify the citadels of the unfortunate, to adorn the asylums of the feeling heart, and to administer comforts that are fit to gild the dark mansions of adversity, and to prune the soaring wings of petulant prosperity.

These are objects worthy of the true philosopher, the good citizen, and, *what is best of all*, of the Christian philanthropist; and I expect to be uninterrupted.

All nature is full of order, and of adaption, of animation and motion. It is continually changing, and yet ever true to its original forms. This is the will of the Creator and governor, and it is full of wisdom and benevolence

Whenever we explore the surface of this planet, we find it teeming with productions in infinite plenty and unknown variety.

To human ingenuity these productions are increased beyond all temporary estimate.

The heavens, the earth, and the waters, are rendered subservient to man's welfare, and to his power, by the pre-eminency of his rational endowments, and by their cultivation.

By the action of light, and the acid of the air, on the absorbent and predominant parts of vegetables, the livery of nature below, is rendered mild, bland, and beau-

tiful, green, and refreshing to the eye. Above, gay, bright, and exhilerating.

Plants that are esculent and wholesome, are pre-eminently abundant, grateful to smell, and pleasing to the sight.

The deleterious and poisonous, are in their aspect lurid, in their smell heavy and nauseous, as well as in their taste; as the hemlocks, the henbanes, and the whole family of noxious vegetables.

On the coasts of the sea, when the fogs, and salt air, and salt food, produce scurvy, we find the kail and the scurvy grass, with every natural antiseptic, suited to the climate.

In the torrid regions of the earth, where the violence of heat relaxes the stomach, and superinduces bilious disorders, nature has placed a redundancy of strong aromatics and styptics. Spices abound, and are greedily devoured, from a concomitant instinct of the inhabitants.

Atmospherical air is spoilt by frequent inhalation, and nature has made growing vegetables restorers of its salutiferous qualities.

The great Franklin told me, that no places of residence, where mephitic air was bred by stagnant circumstances, could be comfortably inhabitable without the neighbourhood of forests; and that no where in America were the people found to be more healthful, than in such vicinities.

Vulneraries and medicaments are provided every where among growing vegetables, for every tribe of animals; and they are sought for instinctively by the various species. Man, by his domestication, loses his instincts, in this respect, and requires the direction of physiological investigation to remedy the defect.

While I am engaged in these agreeable reflections, I stumble on a beautiful original letter, from Foliaceus Probus, to Ascanius Agricola, with which I shall conclude this short essay.

"FOLIACEUS TO ASCANIUS SENDS HEALTH,

"This is accompanied with a parcel of seeds of true rhubarb, as *rheum palmatum*, that you formerly requested.

"I wish they may produce a rich crop, attended with every salutary effect; and that every one who is worked upon by their beneficial influence, may, at the very instant of their operation, pray a thousand blessings on my friend Ascanius, for having liberally, and largely, cultivated so useful a plant.

"People, blest with piety and ingenuity, have observed, that every country produces such herbs as are proper remedies for the distempers arising from the climate.

"There is here a new reason for admiring the dispensations of providence; that when new vices have produced new disorders in the human frame, human industry can also rear new plants for their cure.

"While the inhabitants of Albion lived on haggies *, and singed sheep heads, rhubarb grew only in the country where men fed on horse flesh. But since we have learnt from S. Britain, to use gravy, and butter sauces with every thing we eat, and that we feed much on the two French dishes, *Je ne sçai quoi*, and *Qu'est ce que cest*, indulgent heaven has blest us with the growth of rhubarb.

"I have long had a malicious design upon your mutton; and in four weeks, or in eight weeks hence, I may put

* Fried meat, made of the entrails of a sheep, with meal inclosed in the bag, and boiled in a pot. An old Scotish standard dish.

my intentions in execution. I mention these times, because then will be the full of the moon, by which I am much regulated in my motions during winter; so that though I have no occasion for rhubarb, I may need a little hellebore.

"Writing on this commencement of another year, it would be unpardonable to forget the wishes of the season to Ascanius and his Aurelia; and that the *irrapta copula* may continue as long as they can enjoy human life, is the sincere wish of

On the Kalends of January,
from my seat at Tobershine. } FOLIACEUS."

SLIGHT SKETCH OF THE SEAT OF THE PRESENT WAR IN THE NETHERLANDS.

As the French may be expected to make their principal exertions during the present campaign, on the United Provinces, it will be agreeable to most of our readers to be made acquainted with the state and circumstances of them. With that view, a map is now preparing, and will be given as soon as it can be engraved. In the mean time the following slight notices of the southern parts of the United Provinces may prove acceptable.

Antwerp will probably be employed by Dumourier, as a place of arms during his operations in Holland. This city was for many centuries the capital of the whole Low Countries, while that was the most wealthy and the most powerful state in Europe. It was at that time the most opulent city in Europe, and the most noted emporium of the universe; its merchants were wealthy; its buildings magnificent; its manufactures flourishing; its trade unbounded. Lowes Guicciardin, who described it about the year 1425, and who had seen all the other most cele-

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FOLIACEUS."

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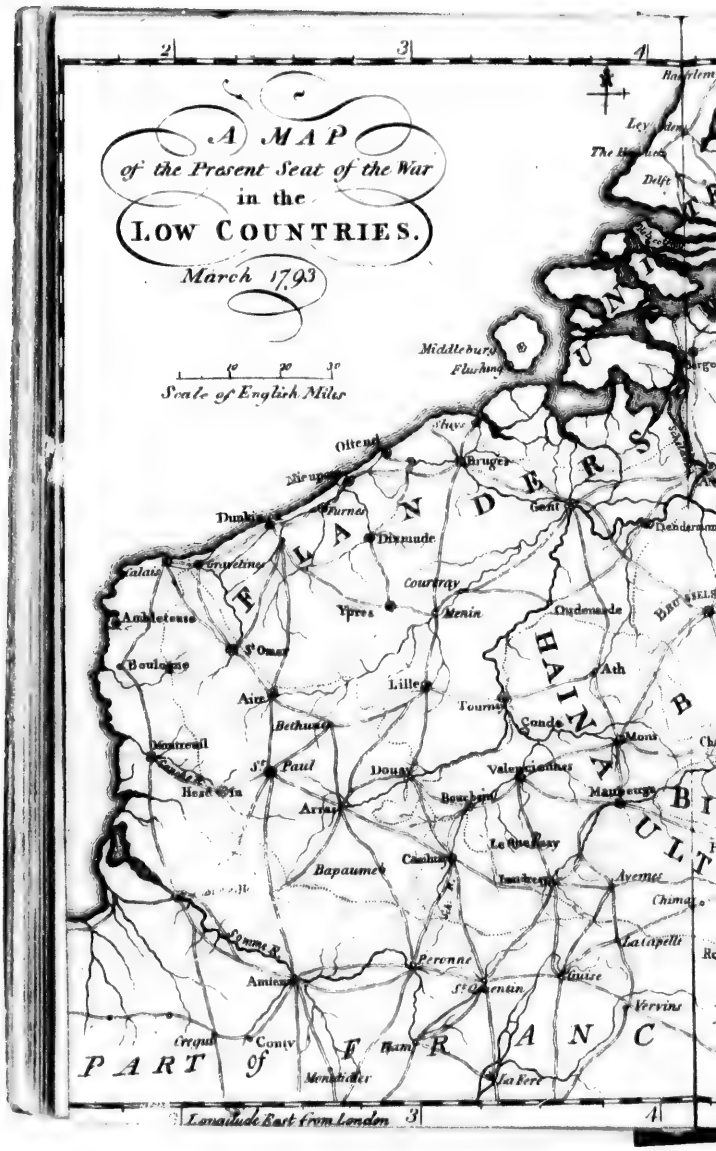
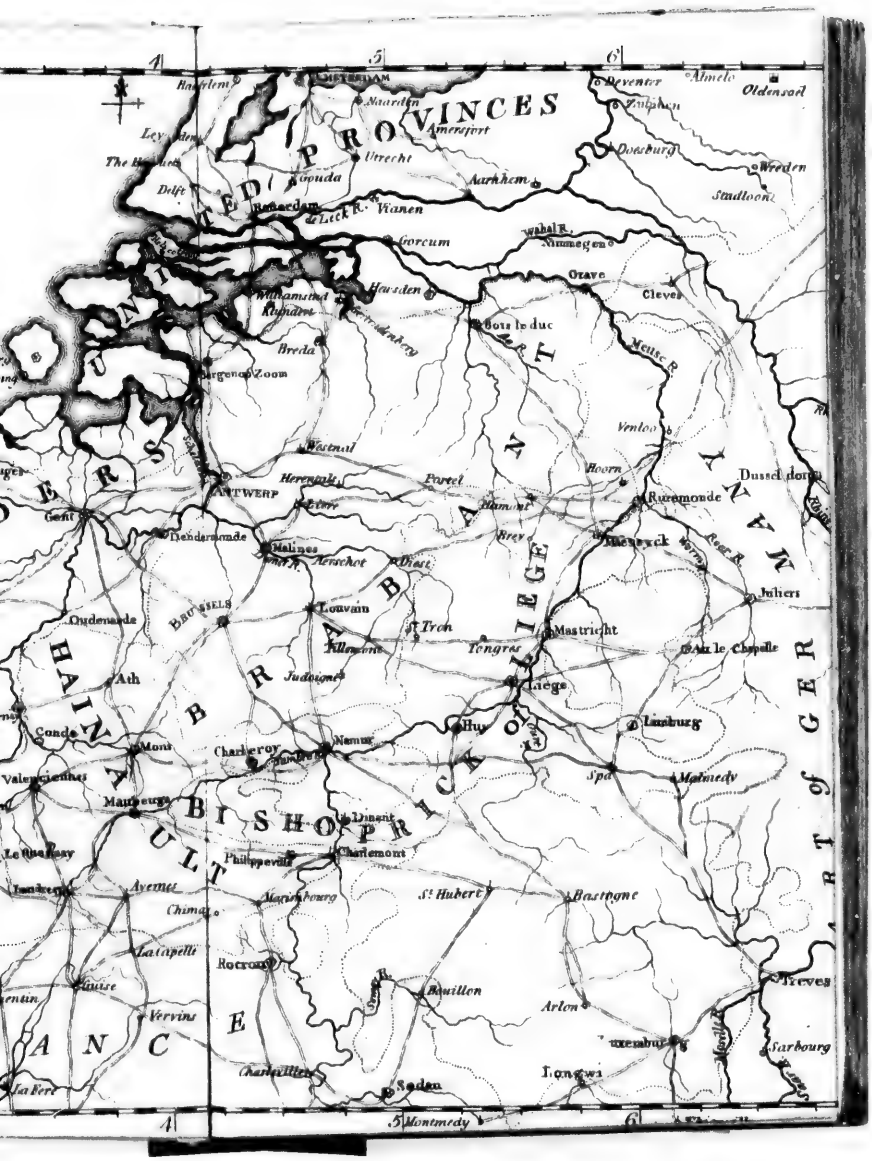
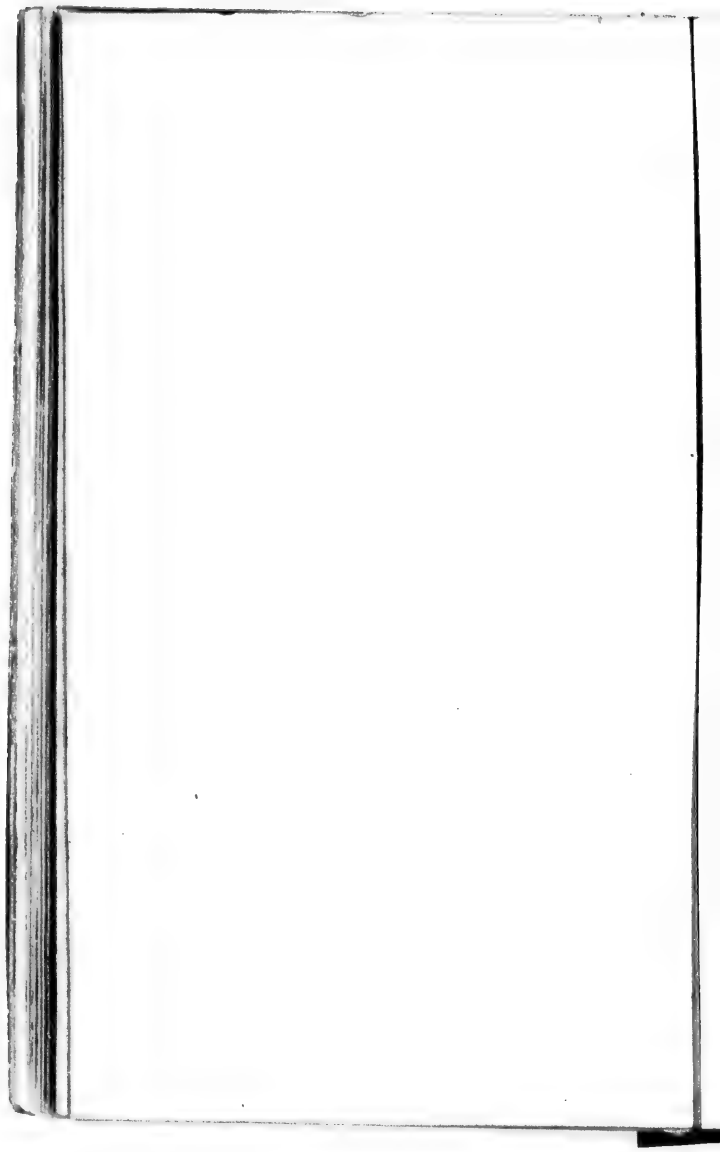

A MAP
of the Present Seat of the War
in the
LOW COUNTRIES.
March 1793
Scale of English Miles
Middleburg
Flushing
Ostend
Bruges
Dunkirk
Furnes
Dixmude
Calais
Gravelines
Courtray
Ypres
Menin
Ambleteuse
Boulogne
St Omer
Aire
Lille
Tournay
Ath
Bethune
Montreuil
St Paul
Douay
Valenciennes
Mons
Arras
Bapaume
Cambray
Ayemes
Chimay
Somme R.
Peronne
Amiens
St Quentin
Guise
Vervins
Crequi
Conty
Ham
La Fere
Mondidier
PART of FRANC
FLANDERS
HAINAULT
Longitude East from London



PROVINCES
Amersfort
Utrecht
Gouda
Aarnhem
Vianen
Gorcum
Nimmegen
Ozave
Cleves
Hersden
Bois le duc
Breda
Bergen op Zoom
Westnal
Ventloo
Hoorn
Ruremonde
Dusseldorp
Antwerp
Gent
Dendermonde
Malines
Aerschot
Diest
Brey
Juliers
Oudenarde
Brussels
Louvain
St Tron
Mastricht
Tongres
Aix le Chapelle
Ath
Judoigne
Liege
Limburg
Conde
Mons
Charleroy
Namur
Spa
Malmedy
Valenciennes
Maubeuge
Dinant
Philippeville
Charlemont
Ayemes
Chimay
Marienbourg
St Hubert
Bastogne
La Capelle
Rocroy
Bouillon
Arlon
Treves
Vervins
Sarbourg
Longwi
Sedan
Montmedy
Deventer
Almelo
Oldensael
Doesburg
Wreden
Stadloon
Meuse R.
Roer R.
Brabant
Hainault
Bishoprick of Liege
Ultrance
Art of Germany



brated cities in Europe, speaks of the splendour of this city, in terms of the highest admiration. But after these dominions became an apanage of the king of Spain, the bigotted Philip II. by endeavouring to subject these free states to the jurisdiction of the Court of Inquisition, excited such a spirit of disaffection, as produced a revolt, which, after a war of thirty years, terminated in the dismemberment of that fine kingdom, seven of the seventeen provinces having established their independence, under the name of the *United Provinces*, by the treaty of Utrecht in 1581.

During the course of that long and ruinous war, no city suffered such a reverse of fortune as Antwerp. It was besieged, and at last taken and sacked by the duke of Alva. Its principal merchants retired then to Amsterdam, situated in the northern part of Holland, which is strongly secured against the attacks of enemies, by means of the marshes and shallow seas which surround it; and by the exertions of these industrious men, it has been raised to an exaltation that is in some small degree emulous of the state of what Antwerp had been. When Philip was at length constrained to grant independence to the United Provinces, Antwerp was the most northern town of note he retained; and the very men who had been driven from it, conscious of its natural advantages for trade, and afraid that it might become again their rival, and of the uses that might be made of it to their annoyance, took care to stipulate by treaty, that the Dutch alone should have the free navigation of the Scheldt, as the mouth of that celebrated river lies entirely within their territories; and ring every change that has since taken place respecting those countries, they have maintained possession of it until the present time.

Antwerp is situated upon the N. E. side of the Scheldt, where the river takes a bend about sixty miles from the sea. It is a spacious place, but now much declined from its original splendour. The walls are reckoned no less than eight or nine miles in circumference; but within these are included many gardens. Its citadel has never been put into a thorough repair, since it was taken by the duke of [illegible] so that it cannot be accounted at present a place of great strength; but on account of the river, which is here upwards of twenty feet deep, and 400 yards broad, flowing through a fertile country, no place could be better calculated for a store room than this, if the communication with the sea were open. It is twenty-five miles north of Brussels, to which it has ready access by a navigable canal.

Breda is situated about thirty miles north and a little east of Antwerp. It is the first fortified town of any note on that side, in the territories of the United States. Busching thus describes it: "It lies upon the river Merk, which at this place receives the Aa. The latter of these streams, being a little before increased by the Bylooss, is here rendered navigable, and thus gives it a communication with the German ocean. Its fortifications, without very great improvements, are unable to stand a seige; though the town itself is partly covered by a morass, and by means of the *Merk* and *Aa*, is able to lay a *part* of the country under water." It is about ten miles south of the arm of the sea through which the *Maese* falls into the ocean.

Williamstadt is a small fort about 16 miles W. of Breda, upon the point of the isle of Rugenhil; having a good harbour on the narrow sea called *Holland diep*, about fourteen miles from Rotterdam, on the opposite side of the same narrow sea.

Bergenopzoom is the strongest fortified town in this quarter. It is situated near the mouth of the Scheldt, about twenty miles S. W. from Breda, and about the same distance N. W. from Antwerp. Busching thus describes it.

"The south side of the town stands on a small eminence. It has long been celebrated as a strong fortress. Its wall, which is about an hour in circuit, is defended by five bastions, and ten horn works. Exclusive of the other fortifications on the north side, a strong line was drawn there in the year 1727, communicating with *Moermont*, *Pensen*, and *Rover* forts; and the *south*, or *water* fort, of five bastions, command the entrances of the old and new harbour. The adjacent country can also be laid under water; and as long as *Zeeland* continues clear of enemies, any supply, or reinforcements, can be thrown into it by means of the *Scheldt*. The States keep a good garrison here, and it is always commanded by a person of distinguished reputation. It was first walled in 1287. In 1588 and 1622, it held out against two powerful armies of Spaniards; but in 1747, after a seige of ten weeks, the French made themselves masters of it *by surprise*. In 1749, however, it was restored, though in a very ruinous condition."

All these places are situated to the south of the *Maese*, which may be said to be the natural bounding of the fortified Netherlands; as, to the north of that river, the country being very low, it is almost every where liable to be laid under water at pleasure. If the Dutch be serious in the defence of their country, they will, therefore, dispute the passage of that river, with all their power; and if they shall have provided themselves with a sufficient number of gun boats, it will probably be found a matter of great difficulty to force a passage on that quarter. To open

a way towards the eastern paſsage by Venloo, general Miranda will, therefore, no doubt puſh the seige of Maestricht as vigorously as poſsible. Of this part of the country, some slight notices ſhall be given in our next.

CONTINUATION OF THE CORRESPONDENCE OF DR ANDERSON OF MADRAS, RESPECTING THE BREAD FRUIT TREE, *&c.*

Continued from vol. xi. p. 297.

Letter from captain C. Dighton, to Dr James Anderson.

DEAR SIR, *Shevellapatore, March* 13. 1792.

I have been favoured with your letter of the 6th instant, desiring information concerning the bread fruit tree.

It is not common about this place; but there are a few trees in a large garden called the Jumbo Tope.

The fruit is not much valued by the natives; however, they do make curries of it.

The tree large and extremely beautiful.

The leaf resembles, in some degree, the fig leaf.

The fruit has exactly the appearance of a small Jack.

By the people here it is called *Etapala-kay.*

It is propagated with much ease from the seed, and some trees are now thriving at the paymaster's garden at Palamcotta, from seeds I sent Mr Torin between two and three years ago.

Mr Torin transplanted some trees to the garden he now lives at, near Tinnevely; and as they are doing vastly well, I ſhould imagine it may be cultivated in almost any soil.

The fruit will be ripe the end of this month, or the beginning of next, and with your permiſsion, I will then forward some to you. I remain, *&c.*

Letter from Mr T. Bowser, to Dr James Anderson.

DEAR SIR, *Dindigul, March* 13. 1792.

I HAVE seen a specimen of the bread fruit tree, the same as that at Tritchinopoly; and having a promise of some young trees, in order to transplant, as also seed, I make no doubt by the information received from the country people, of bringing it to perfection at this place.

What was brought here, came from the valley of Dindigul, forty-eight miles off; and although I have been silent, I have not been inattentive; for I have now in my garden many thousand mulberry cuttings, in a most thriving condition, which have been taken from my own mulberry trees.

What I have done hitherto, has been for my own amusement, and managed by my gardener; however, should you think that I could give the smallest aid to your laudable plans, command me without ceremony. And believe me always yours, *&c.*

Letter from Dr James Anderson, to captain C. Dighton.

DEAR SIR, *Fort St George, March* 21. 1792.

I AM very much obliged by the distinct and full account of the bread fruit tree at Shevellapatore, and will be glad of some of the seed, as my trees are yet so young that there is fruit only on one of them.

You will see by the publication I have made, of which I have the pleasure to inclose you a copy, that government have promised to write to Sumatra, for two different kinds of this tree which are known there.

I have, in consequence of Mr Andrew's letter, taken the liberty to send you nopal plants, in the same manner as to our mulberry plantations, for which you will be so good

as to accept of the best apology I can make, that I am happy to place them out in such an able hand. I am, *&c.*

Letter from Mr George Powney, to Dr Berry at Madras.

DEAR SIR, *Cochin, March* 4. 1792.

EXCUSE me for not having replied to your letter of the 27th of January, before now, which requests information of the bread fruit tree;—my public avocations have prevented me from paying that attention to this object which I wished to do.

The bread fruit tree appears to thrive very well both at Cochin and Ayacotta. At the former place, there are several of them; but paid little attention to either by the Dutch, or the natives. Indeed there is a ridiculous prejudice prevails amongst the former, that the fruit is unwholesome, and that the tree, planted near a house, gives diseases to the inhabitants of it.

It is called the *Maldive jack*, both at this place and Ceylon, where I understand there are a great number of the trees.

From every information I have been able to obtain, I conceive it is indigenous to the Maldives, from whence it was brought to Ceylon about thirteen or fourteen years ago, and from that place to this.

I was told by a Dutch gentleman, that the bread fruit is very common at Batavia, and has been for many years past, used as food by the Malays.—I ate of it myself some time ago, and thought it resembled a yam; but of a very superior flavour.

There are no kernels or seeds in it; and it must be multiplied in the manner described by Dr Anderson, in his letter to Dr Mein, of the 29th of January 1792. Such is exactly the manner practised here; but it is not planted in the red volcanic earth mentioned by Dr An-

derson, but in common black mould; and this cannot be done for want of the former, as the soil here abounds with it. I have for Dr Anderson two very fine plants of it, one three feet high, a leaf of which I have now cut off, and send in this letter. I have likewise several cuttings from the root; they are all in boxes, and ready to be sent by the first opportunity. I have incrusted with wax, two of the fruit, which shall be sent at the same time.

I have received by three or four of the last tappals, some of the nopals, I take them to be? They are from Dr Anderson; but he has given me no instructions about them; and I was not so fortunate as to meet with his former publications which made mention of them. I have, however, planted them; my dubash knew them, and called them Ella Kalli.—The people here say that the Travancore country abounds with it.

Mr Martin has not yet sent me the silk worm eggs, and I imagine that his breed must have failed. Yours very faithfully, *&c.*

Letter from Dr James Anderson, to captain T. Bowser.

Dear Sir, *Fort St George, March* 24. 1792.

I have received your obliging favour of the 13th instant, and am very sensible of the value of its contents. As before this reaches you, your garden will be stocked with nopal plants, which, on the permission you have granted, I must request you will take the trouble to distribute slips from, to every village in your neighbourhood, abundance of which they will afford in the course of three or four months; and independent of their use in the expected cochineal business, these plants will prove a nourishing and wholesome vegetable to the natives of the country.

By a letter just received from Mr Powney at Cochin, it appears there are plenty of bread fruit trees there, and at Ayacotta, he is sending me two, which by all accounts are the Sookaon, as yours is the Calawee of Sumatra;—it is therefore likely we shall be able to procure enough of both kinds without crossing the seas.

Mr Powney can send you the sago, and many other valuable trees, which are mentioned in the Hortus Malabaricus, not known to exist at present on this side of the hills; and in case you have any vacant choultries, or spare houses, at Dindigul, I will send you some of the silk worm eggs, as they require good shelter against the monsoon, although the worms are spinning upon the trees in my garden at this season. I am, *&c.*

To be continued.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANOTHER packet of the *Traveller* is received, and seems to improve. The continuation will be looked for at the time promised.

A second letter on popular writers is also received, containing Gibbon, Stewart and Gregory, for which the Editor returns thanks to the obliging communicator;—the remainder will be very acceptable.

The Editor is much obliged to *Yorie*, for his very ingenious observations on the book of Job. They deserve to be preserved; but they would not altogether suit; he fears the taste of a majority of his readers; for which reason he must reluctantly decline to insert them. They shall be carefully preserved in case the writer should call for them. Owing to misdirecting postage was charged. Nothing but *newspapers* pass at the Post Office under a similar address.

Thanks to *I. T. P.* for his very ingenious communication, the conclusion of which is requested before this can be inserted. The paper to which he alludes is not yet returned, but shall be called for soon. If he formerly gave his private address, it has escaped the Editor's recollection; and begs the favour when he next writes, he will have the goodness to mention it.

The Editor is much obliged to an old correspondent for the very ingenious hints on what he stiles the *Political Bible*, which though on a subject he wishes seldom to touch upon, is written in such a pleasing manner, and contains observations which he thinks so just, that he is persuaded, his readers will much approve of. These shall appear as soon as possible.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13. 1793.

ON THE POISON OF SERPENTS.

For the Bee.

No subject has engaged the attention of philosophers more than the poison of serpents, with regard to its nature, and method of operating. In this eſsay I will first treat of the weapons which the animals employ in communicating their poison; next with regard to the poison itself; and lastly, as to the method of cure.

Of the weapons which the animals employ in communicating their poison.

The ancient opinion was, that all the serpent race communicated their poison by means of a sting in their tail; and indeed some of the most early writers give figures of serpents with the sting in their tail; some have invented a similar fiction, that serpents stung by means of a forked tongue; while others, affecting superior discernment, have ascribed it to the teeth in general. These are all very erroneous opinions; for no serpent can poison either by the forked tongue or tail;

for there is no point in the one, nor sting in the other to poison other animals. In all poisonous serpents there is a small moveable bone adhering to each side of the upper jaw; in these, there are two or three tubular fangs, which resemble the canine teeth. The fangs can be laid flat and erected at the pleasure of the animal; and these fangs are the real stings of serpents, and the means by which they convey their poison. At the base of each fang is a small vesicle, which contains a little drop of a yellowish coloured liquor; this vesicle, at the bottom of the tooth, being compressed when the animal bites, the liquor passes through the tube in the tooth into the wound. These facts were first mentioned by Rhedi, and afterwards confirmed by Dr Tyson in his account of the rattlesnake given in the Philosophical Transactions. The North American Indians, after carefully extracting these venomous fangs, suffer the rattlesnake to bite them till the blood flows, with total impunity.

Of the hundred and thirty-two species of serpents that have been mentioned by Linnæus, there have been only twenty-three marked by him as possessed of poisonous fangs. Dr Walker observes, that the *amphisbæna fuliginosa*, a serpent well known in the Brazils, has no fangs; of course Linnæus has not marked it as poisonous, and yet its bite is well known by the Portuguese to be mortal; we must therefore conclude, (says he,) that there is no security to be found in serpents being destitute of moveable fangs; for in this instance, and I believe many others, they are capable of conveying a mortal

poison, though not poſseſsed of these fangs or canine teeth, and of course their mouth is of different structure from other poisonous serpents.

Of the poison itself.

We must now turn our attention to the nature of the poison injected into the wound. This subject was first greatly elucidated by some experiments made by Rhedi, under the auspices of Ferdinand II. great duke of Tuscany. By these means a number of particulars were made known, which before were entirely unknown. The principal of these are the following:

When he either caused a living viper to bite a dog, or wounded him with the teeth of one newly dead, (the poisonous vesicle remaining unbroken,) the event was the same. If the bite was repeated, its effect became weaker, and at last was lost; the poison contained in the vesicle being totally exhausted. That the teeth of serpents when extended to bite, were moistened over with a certain liquor; and when the vesicle at the base was preſsed, a drop of poison flowed to the point of the fang. When the poison, thus flowing from the vesicle, was received first in soft bread or a sponge, an animal bitten by the serpent received no more harm from the wound than being pricked by a needle, till after a few days when the venom was restored a-freſh; but when an animal was wounded by the point of a needle dipped in the poison, it was tormented with the same pains as if it had been bitten by the viper itself. Preſerving some of this poison in a glaſs, and totally evaporating the moisture in the sun, when the residuum was diluted with water, and the point of a needle dipped in the solution, Rhedi found, to his great surprise, that it had the same

effect as when recent. But the boldnefs of one Tozzi, threw all the learned men of the age into the greatest aftoniſhment;—he drank a quantity of this poiſon without ſuſtaining the leaſt injury. This ſeems to have been known to the ancients; for Lucan, in the ninth book of his Pharſalia, ſpeaking of the ſerpent, ſays,

> Noxia ſerpentum eſt admiſto ſanguinea peſtis
> Morſu vires habent, et ictum dente minantur,
> Pocula morte carent. PHARSAL. lib. IX. v. 614.

Many barbarous nations are perfectly acquainted with this property of the poiſon of ſerpents; for they dip their arrows in that poiſon, and when once introduced into human blood it is productive of the moſt terrible conſequences. But to return to our Florentines. That they might confirm this principle, they collected a quantity of poiſon, and gave it to different animals without producing the leaſt inconvenience; but when applied to an external wound, every one of thoſe horrid ſymptoms which accompany the real bite followed, *viz.* inflammatory and malignant fevers, ending in death, unleſs nature, by a ſpontaneous hemorrhage, or ſome other evacuation, diſcharged this poiſon. With reſpect to the experiments of Rhedi, every one of his obſervations prove, that the liquid preſſed out of the veſicle which moiſtens the fangs of the ſerpents, is only noxious by being conveyed into the blood, by means of a puncture or wound; and the caſe of Tozzi, who drank a conſiderable quantity of this poiſon without ſuffering injury, proves that it hurts the blood, only when externally mixed with it.

Symptoms of the bite.

The symptoms that attend the bite of the viper, are, a smarting in the part wounded; swelling, paleneſs, snapping of the eyes, tears; horror with coldneſs; a weak pulse, afterwards becoming unequal; thirst, cold sweat, pain in the reins; diarrhœa with griping and vomiting; difficulty of breathing, drowsineſs, and convulsions, which terminate in death.

Coluber prestor, a native of Sweden. Symptoms attending the bite of it, are pain in the wound, tumour, thirst, asthma, anxieties, convulsions, and death.

There is a serpent still more dreadful than any of the former, found in Sweden, called *coluber carcia*. The bite of this is followed by immediate change of colour, coldneſs, stupor, palpitation of the heart, acute pain all over the body, and death. Linnæus tried oil in this case, but it proved ineffectual.

The *coluber aspis* of Linnæus, is an animal commonly called the Egyptian asp, and well known to the ancients. The bite is followed by laſsitude, torpor, and death without pain. For these reasons, Cleopatra made use of this creature to put an end to her existence.

The *cratalus horridus* of Linnæus, the rattlesnake, kills in a very sudden manner; his bite usually producing death within twelve hours.

But the most horrid of all the serpent tribe, is what is called the *coluber naga*, of Linnæus. This is the serpent called in the East Indies *cobra de capello*. Its bite kills within an hour, with the most excruciating pains, and is attended with instant putrifaction,

and the fleſh separates from the bones immediately. This is the serpent the ancients called *Sepe.*

Of the cure.

It would extend this paper to a prodigious length if I were to enumerate all the antidotes that have been employed against the bite of serpents. I ſhall confine myself to a few. About sixty years ago, an effectual remedy for the bite of a viper was discovered in England, by chaffing the part with warm Florentine oil. The viper catchers are so confident of this remedy, that, for a small trifle, they will let a viper bite their hand. Linnæus found that the same antidote answered against the bite of the *coluber prestor.* In the case of the rattlesnake we have a very powerful antidote in the *polygala senega*, or rattlesnake root, for which we are indebted to the North American Indians. Proof was made of it in Sweden by Linnæus. A maid servant at Upsal, was bitten by a serpent upon a very dangerous place. The most dreadful symptoms followed the bite, and such as demanded the application of the most decisive remedies. Linnæus was sent to, and he sent two doses of the powder of this root, by which ſhe was almost entirely recovered in two days. Besides these, there are other remedies used by the Americans, as the *veratrum luteum, alectris farinosa, uvularia perfoliata, sanicula Canadensis*, and others. The antidote against the *coluber naga*, or *cobra de capella*, is the *ophioriza mungos*, or Indian *ophiorriza*, a description of which may be seen in an elegant diſsertation on that subject by Darelius, in the Amœnitates Academia.

P. H. N.

ADDITIONS ON THE ABOVE.

THE ingenious writer of this paper does not seem to be acquainted with a late discovery made in India, by Mr John Williams there, and publiſhed in the Asiatic Researches; *viz.* that the caustic volatile alkali, administrated in small doses, and repeated at ſhort intervals, proved effectual in all the cases in which it had been properly administered; even after the symptoms were the most alarming. The following case will serve as an illustration.

"In July 1784, the wife of a servant of mine, was bitten by a *cobra de capello* on the outside of the little toe of her right foot. In a few minutes ſhe became convulsed; particularly about the jaws and throat, with a continued gnaſhing of the teeth. She at first complained of a numbneſs extending from the wound upwards; but no ligature was applied to the limb. About sixty drops of the caustic volatile spirit were given to her in water, by forcing open her mouth, which was strongly convulsed; in about seven minutes the dose was repeated, when the convulsion left her; and in three more ſhe became sensible, and spoke to those who attended her. A few drops of the spirit had also been applied to the wound. The snake was killed and brought to me, which proved a *cobra de capello*."

Mr W. concludes his paper in these words: "I have seen instances of persons bitten by snakes, who have been so long without aſsistance, that when they had been brought to me, they have not been able to swallow, from convulsions of the throat and

fauces, which is, I observe, a constant symptom of the bite of the *cobra de capello*; and indeed I have had many persons brought to me who had been dead sometime; *but never knew an instance of the volatile caustic alkali failing in its effect, where the patient has been able to swallow it.*"

In the course of this disertation he takes occasion to observe, that in one case, oil had been swallowed by the patient before his arrival; but that on administering the alkali, the patient vomited up the oil, which he considered as a fortunate circumstance; as he thinks oil tends to weaken the power of the alkali, which he believes acts entirely as a stimulant. *Eau de luce*, he says, may be successfully employed where the pure alkali cannot be had; but it is less efficacious. Fortunately for this country we have no dangers of this kind to guard against.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

IF you think as well as I do of the following extract of a letter I lately received from a gentleman of eminence in the country, you will not hesitate to give it a place in your useful Miscellany; by doing which I imagine you will oblige many of your readers, and give pleasure to

AN OLD CORRESPONDENT.

HINTS FOR A POLITICAL BIBLE.

I AM duly favoured with yours of the first instant. The plan of the Committee for disseminating useful

political knowledge among our lower classes of people, is most highly useful, and has my best wishes for its success. I like it because it is an institution quite the reverse of the Inquisition; and at least as well calculated for the support of a free government as the Inquisition is of a despotic one.

I wish some of your able pens would write a Political Bible, divided into short chapters, and adapted to our own constitution. It might begin by some preliminary observations on government in general, distinguishing the circumstances that constitute the essence of freedom and despotism; then give instructions to kings, princes, ministers, nobility, and gentry; and proceed to judges, and tax gatherers, not forgetting the clergy; and then, descending to the lower classes, a few well stated facts might be thrown in, to persuade them, though the lower, they are not therefore the less happy orders of the state. They begin already round me to feel they are the most useful. When a poor man told a rich one that he was very hungry, the rich man exclaimed, "How happy you are! I have not had the pleasure of being hungry these twenty years." Did they but reflect how invariably our Maker has attached bodily health, and peace of mind, to industrious occupations, they would view us idlers with less envy. Then show them how our excellent constitution secures to them these happy fruits of their own labour; and that the general protection of good laws, extended to us landed proprietors, extends their means of being employed,—that is of being happy. I should expect to see the people attached warmly to our constitu-

tion in proportion to their poverty, and not, as is now the case, in proportion to their wealth. For I am convinced the discontent and uneasinefs, which, I am sorry to say, I find pretty prevalent amo[illegible] the lower claſses, all proceed rom ignorance, worked upon by misrepresentation.

Our Political Bible, like our Sacred Bible, might consist partly of precepts, and partly of history. A ſhort historical account of the progreſs of liberty, and of the succeſsive improvements on our con[illegible]titution, would have a great effect. Its present state, I would boldly aſsert, to be so near to perfection, that it ought only to be touched in future by the most ſkilful hand, and very gently. A contrast of the condition of the labourer in Spain, Italy, Turkey, and of the tradesman there, might be introduced. At present, the people round me are all getting rich; getting better houses, clothes, and food, by means of rights which they do not know they enjoy. This want of instruction your Commitee is meant to supply. Judge then of the beneficial effects it may produce. I am particularly anxious to see William Playfair's book on the consequences of a parli[illegible]mentary reform; because that is the most popular, and yet the most dangerous crotchet the people have got in their heads. What they aim at for the boroughs, would only extend drunkenneſs, idleneſs, and corruption. Our boroughs would be better if deacons of [illegible]crafts were chosen for life, like the aldermen in London. The public accounts indeed ſhould be very open to inspection, and subject to easy controul. But to return from this digreſsion. As a slight ſketch, to

convey something like an idea of what I mean, take the following a an example.

Specime of the Political Bible.

Book rst, Chapter first.

1. A king not controuled by his nobles and people, is a despot; as witnefs Morocco.

2. Nobles not controuled by a king and people, are despots; as witnefs Venice.

3. A people not controuled by nobles and a king, are despots; as witnefs France.

4. A state in which king, nobles, and people, have each a fhare in the government, is free; as witnefs Great Britain and Ireland.

5. The different ranks of life, like the different seasons of the year, have each their use. God made them both.

6. The hottest season is not always the healthiest; no more is the richest man always the happiest.

7. The winter prepares the ground for ploughing in the spring; the spring prepares it for bearing corn in summer; the summer ripens the corn for reaping in autumn.

8. The rich man gives his money to reward the industrious poor man; the poor man gives his industry to minister to the wants of the rich. Could they do without the afsistance of each other? God made them both.

9. Despotic governments are worse for the poor man than for the rich one; as the poor man is sooner ruined than a rich one.

And so on to the end of the chapter.

If you can find a man of abilities who is above the influence of party, and free from prejudice, it might be made a valuable treatise indeed. Should that be once done, and were it revised by men of cool heads and sound judgement, so as to receive their approbation, I would, in that case, give the king's printer a little allowance to add one of them to every copy of the Bible, New Testament, and Prayer Book, under the title of the Political Bible of a free born Briton. The children should learn the use of king, lords, and commons, by heart; then a chapter of the king's duty; the duty of the noblility; the duty of the people; then of law, how it preserves life, character, property, and so on. But I have said enough to give you an idea of what I mean, and that is all I intend at present*.

THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY THE ABOVE.

The Editor would not presume to disfigure the above performance by any additions or interpolations of his own; but he could not resist the temptation of subjoining a few thoughts that the perusal of the above suggested to his mind;—not as a continuation of the chapter, though the verses are so numbered; but as an amplification of it in some degree, which he hopes will not be deemed misplaced at the present time; but which, being

* No person can be so well qualified to execute this task as the ingenious proposer himself; and if he will go on to complete it on the model here so happily begun, he will confer an important service on the community; and if he will favour the Editor with a chapter from time to time, as Mahomet did of the Koran, it shall be regularly inserted in the Bee, till the whole be completed; after which it might be transplanted into the place allotted for it by him, if judged expedient. *Edit.*

carefully distinguiſhed from the text, may be omitted when the work is completed.

10. That government only is free, in which laws that have been deliberately enacted, are so inforced, as that no individual in the state can injure the person, or attach the property of another, with impunity.

11. Freedom may be impaired by despotism on the one hand, or anarchy on the other; but every germ of freedom is totally annihilated where both despotism and anarchy prevail at the same time.

12. A despotic government is that in which any single undivided power is enabled to make, and to repeal laws, at pleasure, and to cause them be inforced in the way it chooses to dictate.

13. Despotic authority may be vested either in one person, as in Turkey, Ruſsia, and some other kingdoms; or in an aſsembly consisting of many persons, as in France at the present moment.

14. Anarchy prevails wherever the authority of government is so feeble as that other powers arise within the state which overawe it, and prevent the execution of the laws; or where several powers contend for predominance, so as to render the peaceable subject unable to determine clearly what he ſhould do.

15. When despotic authority is vested in one single person, the orders of that person will be prompt; and the execution of these orders so vigorous, as to make them be inforced without struggle or dispute. And although neither industry can be here vigorously exerted, nor wealth be accumulated to a high degree, nor the mental faculties of man be carried to perfection; yet if human beings are content to enjoy domestic tranquillity, without aspiring at affluence or distinction, they may be there of-

ten suffered to vegetate at least, in quiet. In this situation *pure despotism* prevails.

16. But where the despotic authority is vested in many, no man can enjoy even this kind of quiet. The will of ne individual of that body constitutes the executive power, so that tra sgreſsions of t despotic will cannot be puniſhed with promptitude ;- -what was decreed to-day, by the prevalence of one party, may be annulled to-morrow by the prevalence of another. The decrees are thus not only more variable than they could be under any one man, but they are often altogether contradictory. From the general ignorance that must for ever in that state prevail, as to the knowledge of th decrees in force, the persons employed to inforce the law thus become a set of petty despots, who, from the unsteadineſs of those above them, must be perpetually tempted to engage in acts of plunder and oppreſsi n : and as these petty despots must be at times discovered and puniſhed by a party which is inimical to their friends, acquiring power for the day, the people will be always on the catch to dispute their authority ; a constant succeſsion of struggles for power must be the consequence through all the land ; and the strongest for the time must ever predominate over the others ; so that peace or quiet are altogether unattainable in any station of life. In this situation despotism and anarchy equally prevail, and freedom is entirely annihilated. This may be called *anarchical despotism.*

17. Of all the kinds of government that can be conceived, that of anarchical despotism must not only be the most unstable and oppreſsive, but also the least economical. In a pure despotism, the rapacity of one despot may be satiated ; and there is at least a chance that generosity of sentiment may sometimes animate his bosom. But in a state of anarchical despotism, the rapacity of the

many must be insatiable; and by throwing the load from each individual on the whole body, even ſhame is annihilated; and if these despots are to enjoy power but for a ſhort time, their appetite for plunder will be whetted by the consideration that they ought to lose no time in acquiring it. From the dread of detection, each will be disposed to wave severe scrutinising. This will produce a general and tacit connivance at the enormities of each; so that all attempts at inquiry will be quaſhed by a vote of the majority, a . . the most ſhameful peculations must thus escape with impunity. Could it have been poſsible, under any other form of government, to have screened the robbers of the *Garde Meuble* in France from detection?

18. To insure freedom to a people, and to guard against despotism, it is neceſsary that no *single* undivided power whatever ſhould be intrusted with the sole privilege of enacting laws; but that the concurrence of several distinct powers, which may have different views and inclinations, ſhould be required, before any law can be binding on the nation: and the executive power ought ever to be separated from the deliberative voice.

19. To guard against anarchy, on the other hand, the arm that is intrusted with the execution of the law, ought to be strong and irresistible, so as to be able, without danger of succeſsful resistance, to seize and bring to due puniſhment, by a clear and direct trial, every person, whoever he be, who ſhall are to infringe the laws.

20. Whatever tends to weaken the executive arm, tends to remove the only ſhield that ever can be interposed to protect the weak, against the oppreſsive grasp of the powerful.

21. To prevent the laws from being oppreſsive, they ought to be enacted with a proper regard to the circumſtances of the people; and care be taken, that no law can be

enacted, but with due deliberation in several sittings of each department of the legislative council, that time may be given for reflection, and opportunities afforded, before paſsing the law, for parties who may think they will be aggrieved by any proposed law, to state their objections to it before the legislative council, thus to prevent these legislators from being betrayed into the enacting iniquitous laws through ignorance.

22. When a law is once enacted, provision ſhould be made against a poſsibility of repealing it on a sudden; that thus the many evils which must ever originate from a great mutation, and consequently a general ignorance of the existing laws, may be avoided.

23. The *legislative* department of government, ſhould in no case have any ſhare in the *executive* power; because this tends directly to establiſh an uncontrouled despotic authority: but it ought to poſsefs a power of calling the tools of the executive power to account, wherever they had exceeded the powers intrusted to them by law; and of puniſhing them without appeal, where they ſhould be fairly convicted of a crime.

24. The *judicial* power ſhould be totally different from, and independent of both the *executive* and *legislative* departments of government, unleſs where the judges ſhall be convicted of having exceeded the powers intrusted to them by the law; that thus the persons who made the laws, may not have it in their power to stretch them, on particular occasions, beyond the limits for which they had been originally intended; and thus, by their pre-eminent power, be enabled to evade puniſhment when acting unjustly. It was by thus stretching the law at their pleasure, that the unfortunate Louis was condemned by the mere will of a junto, without a ſhadow of law.

25. It is upon these rational principles that the goodly fabric of the Britiſh conſtitution, has, by ſlow degrees, been reared up, and upon this ſure baſis the freedom and proſperity of this country has been founded. The Commons and the Peers muſt each of them deliberate ſeparately, during the courſe of *five* ſittings at leaſt, including the moving for, and obtaining leave to bring in the bill before it can be paſſed. Parties may be heard at the bar againſt it, during its progreſs through both the Houſes, in all its ſtages. When it has even paſſed both Houſes, it muſt alſo be ſanctioned by the Royal authority, before it can obtain the force of a law. Beſides all theſe precautions, it is alſo neceſſary, in regard to bills that tend to infringe upon private property, that public intimation be given of an intention to bring in ſuch a bill, *ſix months* at leaſt before it can be propoſed in either Houſe. Thus carefully are the rights of individuals guarded againſt infringement by ſurprize, in Britain; and thus attentive have we been to prevent improper laws being enacted, through blind prejudice or caſual ignorance in the legiſlators.

26. And when a law has once been duly ſanctioned by the *legiſlature*, the execution of it is then taken out of the hands of the legiſlative power, and entruſted to the king, who is armed with ample powers to compel ready obedience to theſe decrees, after it ſhall have been aſcertained by the verdict of a jury of honeſt men, that any of them have been tranſgreſſed; and after the judges, who are endowed with ample ſalaries, and who are alike independent of the parties accuſed, and of thoſe who are the accuſers, ſhall have awarded the ſentence that the law authoriſes. Nor is there any order of men in the ſtate which is not under the controul of the law. The king, himſelf, though his perſon be inviolable, is, through the medium

of his servants, without whose concurrence he can do nothing, equally under its controul as every other person, in as far as respects the ordinary transactions of life; and in regard to higher crimes, the most favoured servant of the crown may be tried by IMPEACHMENT; and if by the judges he ſhall be declared guilty, he must inevitably be puniſhed, without a poſsibility of his being screened from it by the royal protection. Such are the means, that, from the experience of ages, have been adopted by the Britiſh conſtitution, to guard against those two powerful enemies to freedom, ANARCHY and DESPOTISM.

27. In France all these checks against despotism and anarchy have been totally neglected; and the most perfect system of anarchical despotism that can be conceived, has been there concocted, and carried to a height of perfection it never had attained in any other part of the earth. A decree may be paſsed in the National Convention as soon as it is proposed; and the moment it is paſsed it has the force of a law. This decree may be proposed by any man who pleases to do so. The decree may be again reversed during the same sitting, if it ſhould so please the Convention. In these circumstances it is impoſsible for any man to know what is the law; or to have a reasonable aſsurance that he can either be justified in resisting what is required of him, or be puniſhed legally for resistance.

28. The Convention has not only the power of enacting laws at pleasure, but of executing them in the way it pleases. The armies, the navies, the ministers, the judges, are all amenable to its bar. And if it wiſhes to protect the guilty, or to puniſh the innocent, there is no legal power whatever that can oppose it.

29. But there is a power which does check this aſsembly. There is a power which dictates to it. There is

a power which moulds its decrees at pleasure; and though unseen, over-rules every thing. This power is not the People,—this power is not the Federates,—this power is not the Jacobin Club. It is the Ruler of the leaders of all these separate bodies, which acts with sovereign uncontroulable sway, without being brought into view. Like the eastern despots of old, who iſsued their mandates from the innermost receſses of the palace, this invisible power, by its inarticulated volition only, has already immolated thousands on the altar of despotism. It was this invisible power which aſsembled the Marsellois; it was the same power which planned and effected the maſsacres on the 10th of August, and the 2d of September; it was this power which brought the artillery from the ramparts of St Dennis; it was this power which drew the Federates a second time from Marſeilles to Paris; it was this power which guarded Louis to the block; and it was this power which sent the Federists back again when the deed was done.

30. Under such a system of despotism, what security has any man for life, for property, for any thing? Innocence is no guard; industry can afford him no resource; the law can give him no protection. His only safety consists in a mean submiſsion to the will, or a base concurrence with the measures of the despot; and even this affords him only the precarious surety of the moment. To aſsert that a nation enjoys freedom under such circumstances, is the same thing as to maintain, that after a house is already in flames, if it be left to itself, it will not be consumed!

Disquisitions concerning the Mode of making Bricks among the Romans.

It is acknowledged, that the ancient Romans poſsesed the art of making bricks in much greater perfection than any of the modern nations of Europe. Many buildings that have been erected with these ancient bricks, have withstood the viciſsitudes of weather for some thousands of years, and yet remain firm and entire; whereas modern works, consisting of these materials, begin to moulder away almost as soon as formed, and are unable to resist, but for a very ſhort time, the slightest viciſsitudes of weather. This difference can only proceed from our ignorance of the manner of manufacturing bricks; as we are still poſsesed of the same materials that they employed: it is therefore an object well deserving our attention, to try if we can discover wherein our error consists, that we may be enabled to regain this long lost useful art.

Clay, in its native state, is capable of being softened by water, and of being in some measure diffused therein, so as to form with it a cohesive ductile paste, that admits of being moulded with ease into a great variety of forms; which forms it may be made to retain after the water has been evaporated from it. But if clay has been exposed for a sufficient length of time to the action of an intense fire, it loses all these properties; it acquires a hard and stony consistence; is no longer capable

of being softened, or in any manner acted upon by water; if that is reduced to powder, it is incapable of any adhesion when mixed with water, but remains an incoherent mafs in every respect refembling fine sand.

Hence, then, it follows, that if a mafs of native clay be well soaked in water, and thoroughly kneaded with it into a fine paste, and then moulded into a proper form, and baked in a kiln, it will be converted into a hard stony mafs, retaining the form it was moulded into. This is in fhort the procefs followed in the manufacture of bricks. But there are some peculiarities that occur in the procefs which require to be explained, before we can hope to discover in what manner our manufacture of this article may be improved.

When clay is reduced to a paste with water, it occupies a much larger space, than when it is perfectly dry; and by consequence, if it is moulded into any form when in this soft state, the mafs will gradually fhrink in all its dimensions, as the water is evaporated from it in drying. Hence, it happens, that if the mafs be of any considerable size, the parts are apt to separate from one another in drying, so as to make it appear full of rents in every part, which in many cases renders it unfit for the purposes intended.

To prevent this defect it has been found neceffary in all cases to mix with the clay some extraneous matter which does not absorb water, or swell with it in any considerable degree, which being envelopped in the soft clay, is rendered coherent by

that means; and in proportion to the bulk of that extraneous matter, the contracting in drying will become the leſs considerable; so that by mixing it in considerable quantities, the cracking in drying will be entirely prevented.

The matters that have been employed for this purpose have been different in different countries, and varied according to the uses that the manufactures were intended to answer; some being more proper for one use, and others for another.

In warm countries that enjoyed a serene climate, it has been found, that bricks baked in the sun, attained a degree of hardneſs sufficient for ordinary uses; and on these occasions, no material has been found more proper for the purpose than straw chopped small: for this substance not only served to diminiſh the contraction in drying, as above explained, but also to cement the different parts of the brick together, and to give them a greater degree of cohesiveneſs than they would naturally have had. It is precisely for the same purposes that we, in modern times, find it neceſsary to mix hair with plaster made of pure lime, which would be apt to crack and fall down were it not for this addition. Of this kind were the bricks made in Egypt by the Israelites of old, who had good reason to complain of the hardſhip of being obliged to make *bricks without straw*. A composition of the same kind is still used for making walls to low huts in some parts of England, and in the north of Scotland; but as the sun would not there be sufficient to dry bricks in the manner of those used in Egypt, the builders

content themselves with laying succeſsive layers of the paste, while yet soft, above one another in the wall, and there moulding it into the proper form, and allowing it to harden till it be sufficiently firm to carry another layer. It is then covered with a roof, that prevents water from soaking into it; and although some of the clay is waſhed off whenever the wind is so strong as to beat the rain violently against the wall, yet with proper care to keep the roof tight, some of these walls will stand a very long time. This is perhaps the rudest and most imperfect kind of bricks.

But as clay never loses its quality of becoming soft with water, till it has been subjected to a very intense degree of heat, it becomes neceſsary to mix it with some substance that is capable of resisting that degree of heat, without being consumed, if we hope to have such bricks as ſhall be capable of resisting the weather for any length of time uncovered.

The substance universally employed in modern times for mixing with clay in the manufacture of bricks intended to be burnt in a furnace is sand; and although this is, on many accounts, an improper substance to be employed for that purpose, it seems hardly to have ever entered into the head of any manufacturer of bricks, that its place could be supplied by any other substance whatever*. This I imagine is the real cause of the badneſs of modern

* In the neighbourhood of London, coal aſhes, usually called *duſt*, have been for some time past succeſsfully employed for that purpoſe; but these bricks also contain a large proportion of ſand.

bricks, as will, I hope, appear to be the case from the following considerations.

Sand, by itself, requires a very intense heat to bring it to fusion; but when mixed with any other earthy substance, it not only becomes itself easily fusible, but endows the whole mafs with the same quality; so that no earthy mafs, in which sand abounds, can resist an intense fire without being vitrified. Hence it neceſsarily follows, that if bricks, in which it abounds, are subjected to an intense degree of heat, the whole mafs would be melted, and the bricks would lose their ſhape. To prevent this inconvenience, therefore, it becomes neceſsary to expose these bricks to a degree of heat in baking, that ſhall not be so intense as to vitrify the mafs. But this moderate degree of heat is not sufficient to deprive the clay entirely of its quality of absorbing, and of being softened by water; so that these bricks, when exposed to the weather, absorb some part of the water that falls upon them, which in time ſoftens the clay, and makes it crumble to dust.

Thus it appears that it is in vain to hope for good and durable bricks of any kind, so long as we continue to employ clay, for that purpose, that is mixed with sand in almost any proportion. Hence I would aſume the following *postulatum*.

Good bricks can only be formed of a clay that is naturally pure; or at least that is unmixed with sand of any sort.

It is as vain, however, to expect that good bricks can be made of pure unmixed clay, in its native

state, as that it could be made of the same clay mixed with sand; some addition is always neceſsary to prevent it from cracking in drying or burning. We must therefore find a substance to be added to clay, which is not only itself refractory in the fire, but which also allows the clay to be equally refractory after being mixed with it, as it was by itself.

And such a substance, without attending to others that come at too high a price for ordinary use, we meet with in the clay itself. We have already seen that if pure clay is burnt in an intense fire, it loses all its former qualities, while it acquires those that are wanted on the present occasion. It becomes in that state equally insoluble in water as sand; equally capable of resisting the fire as any other substance; and is capable of being reduced to a very fine powder, which may be mixed with the paste of native clay in almost any proportion, without destroying its ductility. To form bricks therefore that ſhall be equally hard, and equally capable of resisting every variation of the atmosphere with the finest native stone, all that seems to be neceſsary, is to make choice of a clay that is naturally free of sand or metallic substances in any considerable proportion; to bake some part of that clay without any mixture, till it is reduced to a stony consistence; to pound that baken clay till it ſhall be reduced to a fine powder, and afterwards mix that powder with the paste of native clay, in due proportion to prevent it from cracking, before it is moulded into the proper form. This paste

will then admit of such an intense degree of heat, without being fused, as will reduce all the clay in its composition to the state of a stone, on which water will never make the smallest impreſsion, while at the same time it will retain its original form unimpaired.

This substance will no doubt come at a somewhat higher price than common bricks; because it will require at least double the quantity of fuel to burn it; but this, with the pounding the burnt clay, (which in large works, and for ordinary purposes, could be done at a very small expence,) are the only additions to the charge at present. This might make them come perhaps at nearly double the price (exclusive of carriage) which they cost at present. But as the price of carriage would be the same as now, this small original advance of price would be inconsiderable, considering that one brick so formed, would stand at least ten times as long in an outer wall, as the ordinary bricks at present in common use.

A composition of this kind has been long succeſsfully employed as a luting for chemical veſsels, which affords a sufficient proof that it would answer the purpose required above very effectually.

To be continued.

DETACHED REMARK.

To see the world, and to know the just value that ought to be set on human favour, is only to be learnt in the school of *adversity;* a leſson which is taught in no other *academy* upon earth.

THE PLAID, OR JUPITER'S REPLY TO SCOTIA'S REQUEST.

For the Bee.

THUS spake great Jove, when he survey'd our isle;
"Let England's plains with gold in plenty smile;
Rich be her sons,—her daughters kind, and fair,
Free as their *thoughts*, these *unconfin'd* as *air!*
Here will I plant my ever sacred tree *,
Firm as the hearts of men, who know they're free;
Sacred to mystic rites, its shade shall spread
A leafy cov'ring o'er the druid's head;
Or scudding o'er the deep, shall commerce guide;
Or by her Thunder, humble France's pride:
Her thunder, which the cruel foe shall fear.—
Yet for a breastplate, she shall mercy wear!
The naked Indian, while he homage pays,
Shall with his tribute, bring the song of praise;
Her kindness shall inflame his heart so rude;
They conquer twice, who conquer to do good."
A lovely female, clad in mean attire,
Low on the earth, bespake the mighty Sire;
'Father of men! whose love enslaves the mind,
Thou know'st the weakness of all human kind;
A mother for her sons, that love would crave.—
Bleak are our hills, Oh! make my children brave!
Shield them, but, Ah! beneath my Maker's eye,
Poor Scotia feels that all who live must die.
A mother's heart lies open,—thou can'st tell
What passes there, for thou dost know it well.'
His hand he wav'd; ten thousand colours shed
A radiant lustre round the Thund'rer's head.
"Woman! thy pray'r is heard, thy thoughts are known,
And by that signal, I thy children own.
Assume this garb, with varied shades adorn'd,
(For fancy *play'd*, when she the rainbow form'd;)
My signal shewn, the heav'ns dissolve in tears,
Thy signal given, shall wake unheard-of fears;
And Scotia, midst the dying on the plain,
Shall weep the foreign heroes she has slain.
Thy virgins, lovely, too, shall help mates prove,
And wake in good or ill, the soul to love.
As clings the ivy round the stately tree,
Thus constant shall the Scottish females be;
A husband must admire the gen'rous bride,
Who weds his virtues, and his faults would hide.
I give a boon, which neither place, nor time,
Nor Afric's heat nor Zembla's frozen clime,

* Oak.

Shall e'er wrest from your sons. Their hearts shall feel,
(True as their maidens, polish'd as their steel,)
A gen'rous passion,—something *more than name*,
A Scotsman's friendship is a noble flame;
Tho' for each other's woe their hearts shall melt,
Too *proud* to think that for themselves they felt.
Then far in Fate's dark womb to human ken,
Though as to-morrow, to the God of men,
He hail'd the day, when under [redacted] sway,
These firm united, long should both one law obey."

Amnis

Q. D. C.

A SONG.

When clouds that angel face deform,
Anxious I view the growing storm;
When angry lightnings arm thine eye,
And tell the gath'ring tempest's nigh,
I curse the sex, and bid adieu
To female friendship, love, and you.

But when soft passions rule your breast,
And each kind look some Love has drest;
When cloudless smiles around you play,
And give the world a holiday,
I blest the hour when first I knew
Dear female friendship, love, and you.

GLEANINGS OF ANCIENT POETRY.

TO THE SPRING, BY DRUMMOND OF HAWTHORNDEN.

Sweet spring, thou turn'st with all thy goodlie traine,
Thy head with flames, thy mantle bright with flow'rs;
The zephyres curle the greene lockes of the plaine,
The cloudes for joy in pearles weepe down their show'rs.
Thou turn'st, (sweet youth!) but Ah my pleasant howres,
And happie dayes, with thee come not againe;
The sad memorialls only of my paine
Doe with thee turne, which turne my sweets in sow'rs.
Thou art the same, which still thou was before,
Delicious, wanton, amiable, faire,
But thee, whose breath embaulmed thy wholesome aire,
Is gone: nor gold, nor gemmes her can restore.
Neglected vertue, seasons goe and come,
While thine forgot lie closed in a tombe.

Northern Fisherman, a Tale.

For the Bee.

"Wouldst thou, my prince, inform thyself of the situation of thy people, that thou mayest redress their grievances, and promote their welfare, consult not the wealthy merchants of Damascus, nor the proud lords of landed inheritance; but turn thine eyes into the shop of the humble mechanic, the cottage of the industrious peasant, and the village of the laborious fisherman.

Contes Arabes.

William was a young fisherman, in a small sea port town on the frith of Forth in Scotland;—he had been brought up from his infancy by his industrious parents, in the constant exercise of his laborious profession; and, while a boy, if any intermission took place in the fishing through the rigour of the season, the opportunity was embraced by the anxious old man, in sending William to school, that he might be instructed in the useful sciences of writing and arithmetic, and in the duties of Christianity. When William grew up, his personal accomplishments surpassed those of almost all the young men in the village. He was handsome and robust, and possessed a vigorous understanding; he was always foremost in every interprize wherein the exertions of strength and activity were called forth in the prosecution of the fishery. When a ship should happen to be in distress in the neighbourhood, on which occasions the honest fishers were always wont to risk their lives, and their little property, in the relief of the unfortunate crew, William was usually the first in launching out his little boat, and prompting his fellow watermen to venture upon the waves, and carry the necessary assistance to the worn out sailors. Thus was he beloved by all the inhabitants of the village,

and by his well directed industry relieved his old parents from a great part of the toils by which they had gained their livelihood, and educated this promising youth.

Whilst William was living in this happy and contentful situation, he married, at the age of twenty-two, Betsy, a young villager, who had been his intimate friend from her infancy, and who ſhone no leſs than him in her beauty of person, and excellence of character. They loved each other paſsionately, and knew each other so well before their union, that that circumstance made no change on their affections, but rendered their happineſs still more complete than before.

The young couple had been bleſsed in the poſseſsion of each other four months, when one day William was engaged to pilot a ſhip down to the island of May. The day was fine, and the wind was fair. Betsy had, with her usual attention, a refreſhing supper prepared for her husband, whom ſhe expected to arrive in the evening, fatigued with the labours of the day; and to be as usual cheered with her kindneſs, and her simple song. She went at eight to the green on the ſhore of the sea; and whilst ſhe sat knitting a stocking, fatigued her eyes with inceſsant gazing towards the eastward. Every speck ſhe saw on the distant waters, ſhe fondly imagined to be the little sail of William's boat; ſhe anxiously watched every ſhip that cast anchor in the road, in expectation of seeing the slender bark launched from it, and row towards her. Thus did Betsy sit, musing, and watching till the sun had almost withdrawn his kindly rays.—Her uneaſineſs began to be inexpreſsible. She arose, and went home, hoping that her wiſhed-for mate might have come over-land, and be waiting for her in her little cabin; but in vain; there was no William there. In sad uneaſineſs ſhe spent the few hours of a summer night, now thinking of one thing

that might have retarded his return, now of another; hoping for the best, and fearing for the worst; when at the early dawn, ſhe was terrified by the hoarse bawlings of sailors, the flaſhing of oars in the smooth harbour, and most terrible of all, the screamings of her female acquaintance. She started from her lonely chair, (for in bed ſhe had not been,) ran to the street, and there the first object that met her anxious eyes, was Jack, her huſband's most intimate friend, dragged along by two armed ruffians. "Almighty heaven! (exclaimed ſhe,) what are you doing? What has Jack been guilty of? where do you drag him?" —'To serve the king, and be damned to you!' was the sullen answer; and the forlorn Betsy saw, while the unavailing tears burst heavily from her eyes, her huſband's partner bound, beat, thrown into the boat, and borne away. Sadly then did Betsy sigh, sadly did ſhe weep, and bitterly did ſhe lament the cruel fate that tore her William from her, and threw him into bondage; but unavailing were her sighs, and unheard were her complaints, and those of many a widowed wife, helpleſs child, and comfortleſs parent in that thriving village. The prime of the place, the noble youths were all borne away,—perhaps never to return.

A sad reverse of fortune, now rent the heart of poor Betsy. The little money ſhe had, could but for a ſhort time support her gray haired father-in-law, and herself; and the means of her former fruitful industry were now taken away, when the aid of her dear William was no more; but he and ſhe were so much loved by many people in the neighbouring city, that ſhe received aſsistance from them; and her misery was not so great as that of many of the other village wives, who had no such resource. But nothing could console her for the loſs of William; and often, for some days, with forced

hopes, would ſhe exult at the poſsibility of his having escaped the iron hand of the impreſs, and make his appearance in disguise; but days and weeks paſsed away, and William appeared not. At length the following letter, brought, though a mournful comfort, a relief to her anxious suspence.

My dearest Bess, *Portsmouth, 20th of June.*

You know I went on board the Trader, to pilot her down to the May. When I was coming up with Tom Ruſsel and Bob Hughs in the boat with me, we were all preſsed, and so brought here in the Champion frigate. As I seed I could not get off, so I bethought myself that it was for the best to enter; but they are talking of there being no war; so hopes we will soon be paid off again. In the mean time, I am in good health, and would be in good spirits, if it were not for thinking of you my dear. So my dear you will write to me, to the care of captain Gun, of the Thunder frigate, with which I am entered; and you will do it soon, lest we ſhould be gone from here. So remain my dear yours until death.

William Smith.

Betsy then began to be resigned to her fate, and was daily in hopes of the impreſs ceasing, and the sailors being discharged. Thus paſsed six months, at the end of which ſhe was delivered of a fine male child. Soon after her recovery, ſhe heard the agreeable news of the preparations for war being at an end; and received a letter from Willam that he was paid off at Portsmouth, and had taken his paſsage in a ſhip round to the Thames, from whence he was to come down to Leith in one of the London traders. Betsy was now quite overjoyed; her good spirits made her take still greater delight in careſsing her little infant, in whose face ſhe already perceived its father's likeneſs; and ſhe rejoiced in anticipating

the pleasure of presenting the sweet innocent to him on his happy return.

She was already become uneasy at his not arriving, or her not having again heard from him, when ſhe received the following letter:

DEAR BESS, *Gravesend, 1st of Feb.*

When I arrived in the river, and was a going aboard a ſhip, to see if so be that I could get a paſsage to Leith, there was a spar fell off the deck, and struck me on the ſhoulder, and knocked me down, and the end cruſhed my right hand on the boat's gunnell. Seeing that it was so that I was too much hurt to go to sea, I came back here and have since been a little feveriſh. As I cannot write with my hand, this is not wrote by myself. I would not have you be uneasy my dear, because I hopes to be soon well and able to come to you. Till then I am your loving huſband WILLIAM SMITH.

This, again, threw Betsy into sadneſs and distreſs; her anxiety magnified every thing in the letter; ſhe imagined William to be dangerously ill; and, in ſhort, immediately formed the design of going to him herself. All her friends could not diſsuade her from it; it was in vain for them to point out to her how probable it was that he would be perfectly recovered before ſhe got there; and how unneceſsary is was for her to expose herself to the danger and fatigue of such a voyage, at that season. She would not be prevented, nor would ſhe leave her child behind, as ſhe could not be brought to part with it, leſt the change of milk ſhould hurt it, or it ſhould not be taken proper care of in her absence. And as the old man had died, oppreſsed with anxiety, some time after his son William had disappeared, ſhe had no object at home sufficient to detain her from her huſband. She applied to captain Jenkins who agreed to give her a paſsage free in his ſhip from

Leith, and ſhe arrived ſafe at Gravesend, with her little child, where ſhe found her huſband almoſt quite well, and waiting an opportunity of coming to Scotland. It is impoſſible to delineate her joy, and his ſurprise at meeting each other. The ſatisfaction of ſo happy a circumſtance, after ſo many hardſhips, was unequalled, and their mutual love glowed with renovated warmth.

To be continued.

NOTICES OF A FAMINE IN INDIA, WITH REMARKS SUGGESTED BY THAT EVENT.

FROM the correspondence of Dr Anderson of Madras, from time to time inserted in the Bee, it appears that one of the great objects of those truly patriotic exertions he has made for the improvement of India, is to guard against those famines which have hitherto been so frequent in populous tropical regions. We who live in a climate that does not admit of such abundant vegetation in favourable seasons, have no idea of the immense difference between the quantity of human food produced there in one season, in proportion to the deficiency of another, and the consequent miſchiefs it occaſions. But Dr Anderson having lived longer there than most Europeans, has ſo often had occaſion to obſerve the fatal effects of theſe viciſſitudes, that it has excited in his mind an ardent deſire of guarding againſt the effects of it in future, by the wiſe and ſalutary meaſures he has recommended. That our readers may form ſome judgement of the effects of this miſerable ſcourge of mankind, I here ſubjoin an extract of a letter, of date the 5th of October 1792, deſcribing the miſery experienced by the inhabitants of a conſiderable part of India at preſent, which I received from a correſpondent on the ſpot, by the Ganges. Since the commencement of this work, I have ſcarcely received

a dispatch from India in which something of the same sort has not been detailed.

"I do not recollect whether I mentioned before, that a most dreadful famine has raged for many months in our northern circars, from the failure of the usual falls of rain. For these nine or ten months past, the misery has been dreadful; the country in many places quite depopulated. Houses have been broken open where the whole family have been found dead: in other places, nineteen families out of twenty have been destroyed; and throughout these extensive circars, at the most moderate calculation, I understand more than one half have perished. An unfortunate dread of famine in Bengal, has caused the desolation to be so widely extended, and the supplies that have been sent have arrived so lately, that little good can yet be done; and the high price that imported grain always bears, does not allow the lower classes of inhabitants in a country, where much silver does not circulate among them, ever to benefit much by it; the little money they could have had, must have been expended long ago, and it has been impossible to earn any thing for many months, from the great debility that a scanty, poor, and frequently unwholesome food has produced among the few remaining; yet I do not learn that any pecuniary aid has been afforded at present, to preserve even them; although it must be every where allowed, that no misfortune or loss can happen to any country equal to the loss of inhabitants. Such is the unfortunate situation of most Eastern countries, where no provision is made against a failure of rain, and where the inhabitants are satisfied with a daily subsistence."

To guard against the frequency of disasters of this sort, Dr Anderson has proposed to introduce the culture of silk, and cochineal, and indigo, into these regions; thus to furnish employment to the people, and to give them the means of purchasing rice from other countries, when an

accidental scarcity in one province, ſhall happen to prevail; and along with that, he is now anxiously employed in recommending extenſive plantations of the bread fruit trees, which may yield an abundant reſource in thoſe ſeaſons when the crop of rice fails. The nopal plants, too, by affording a nouriſhing vegetable food, may contribute much, he thinks, in promoting this deſirable end: but before his beneficent views can be fully effected, other meaſures muſt co-operate, which it is to be feared the ſtate of India at preſent, ſcarcely admits of being vigorously adopted.

It is a prodigious misfortune to the people in India, that the religious tenets of many of their ſects circumſcribe the kinds of food they are permitted to eat within ſuch narrow bounds. Not only are they debarred from taſting of animal food, but even many kinds of vegetable ſubſtances are held to be impure. Hence it happens, that the bulk of the people are reduced to live almoſt entirely upon rice. Now, as rice cannot be reared to a full crop, unleſs where the plants grow among water, for the greateſt part of the time they are in the ground, it follows that when the rains are not ſo abundant as to ſupply the quantity of water neceſſary for that purpoſe, they have no crop of it; and on theſe occaſions they have ſcarce any thing elſe, to which they can have recourſe.

What adds to this misfortune, is, that on theſe occaſions alſo, the only other ſubſtitute for rice the poor people have it in their power to adopt, muſt be alſo proportionally diminiſhed in quantity; viz. the root of the nymphea aquatica, or water lily, which in rainy ſeaſons affords them a plentiful food at a ſmall expence. This is an aquatic plant, which requires much more water to bring it to perfection than rice does. The rice requires only to be kept in earth ſoaked with water, till it be in the ſtate of pap. The nymphea grows beſt when covered

with water to a considerable depth. To obtain a gradual supply of water for the rice fields, it becomes necessary to form, in the uneven parts of the country, very extensive ponds, which they call *tanks*, having sluices at the under part, by which the water can be let off in regulated quantities, to supply the rice fields in the proper season. These tanks are often formed by raising a mound across the lower opening of an extensive valley, and thus to form a large and capacious bason, or artificial lake, sometimes of many miles extent. During the rainy season the sluices are shut, and the water accumulated to a greater or smaller height, in proportion to the abundance or deficiency of the rains. Thus it happens that a great proportion of the soil in these districts is converted into tanks, or temporary lakes, on which no rice can be reared. The natives, however, having discovered that the nymphea aquatica grows as well under water, as the rice does above ground, and affords large roots, which yield a nourishing food, they plant the bottom of the tanks with these, which, when the flooding has been abundant, yield also an abundant crop; but when it is deficient, the produce of this article also fails in proportion. Thus are they deprived at the same time of this crop, and of the crop of rice, the only two kinds of food that are almost ever eaten by the natives.

Dr Anderson thinks that as the nopal thrives in the driest soil, and prospers luxuriantly in the warmest weather, if that plant were universally cultivated for the rearing of cochineal, in ordinary seasons, it might be applied as a temporary resource for augmenting the quantity of human food, when the two usual crops fail. The same reasoning applies to the bread fruit tree, which, by rooting deeper in the ground than the ordinary tribe of annual plants, can find nourishment in firmer soils, and during a longer course of dry weather than they could bear. Could these trees, therefore, be established in abundance in every district of the country, they would come to afford

a good crop when the others failed; and were the inhabitants to be brought to live equally upon this fruit and rice, it could scarcely ever happen, that a total failure of both crops would take place at the same time; so as to reduce the people to that extremity of distress to which they are so frequently exposed at present.

There are two things, however, still wanted to enable the people to free themselves from every danger of suffering by famine. One is, the practice of feeding some domesticated animals on such fruits and roots as can be there easily reared, that are not reckoned such palatable food by man as rice, and the other food they have been used to; such as that kind of bread fruit that they do not think delicate, but which could be employed in cases of necessity; for unless they can employ a thing of this sort with profit *in ordinary* seasons, it is not to be supposed they will ever rear it in such quantity as to prove a great resource in times of scarcity. But if they were in the practice of feeding animals with it, and of eating their flesh; the animals themselves, being first killed, would afford one supply; and the food they would have consumed would afford another supply, which would be highly beneficial. The same reasoning might apply to the feeding of poultry, and other animals, in ordinary years, upon rice. But the prejudices of their religion prove an unsurmountable bar to this salutary practice.

The other circumstance which would tend still more to remove the dread of famines, would be to afford the inhabitants a full protection to their persons and property, and to grant them a similar freedom to trade, as that which is enjoyed by all ranks of people in Britain. Were this the case, there can be no doubt that, in a few years, the certain prospect of gain would induce the rich people to store up such quantities of rice, during plentiful years, as would always supply the call for it in times of scarcity,

wherever it might happen. But this is a measure, which, I am afraid, we may rather *wish*, than *hope* to see adopted in our day.

SLIGHT NOTICES OF THE PRESENT SEAT OF WAR IN THE NETHERLANDS.

Continued from p. 36.

NAMUR, Liege, Maestricht, Roermonde, and Venloo, are all upon the banks of the river Maese. Maestricht is the largest of these places, and is one of the most ancient and remarkable cities in the Netherlands, particularly for its strength. It lies fourteen miles north of Liege; it is divided by the Maese into two parts, which are joined to each other by a grand stone bridge. The smallest, situated on the side of the duchy of Limburg, is called *Wyk*. It is one of the strongest fortresses belonging to the Republic, and likewise one of the principal keys on the Maese. The *Jeker*, a small river, running through the south side of the town, and falling into the Maese at the bridge, may be checked in its course by means of sluices, and the level country between the town and St Petersberge, (a strong fort about two gunshots to the south of it,) flooded by it. The houses within its walls are about 3000 in number.

Liege is a populous city, about twenty-eight miles lower down the river than Namur. It is a place of no strength; it is about four miles in circuit. Two branches of the Maese, with other rivulets or canals run through many of the streets, forming so many islands, and render it a very pleasant place. The differences that have for some time past prevailed between the prince bishop and his people, are well known to all our readers.

Roermonde, commonly called *Ruremonde*, lies on the confluence of the Roer and the Maese, about twenty

miles south of Venloo. It is a populous place, but of no great strength. Here the French had collected their principal magazines for forwarding their operations on the *Maese*.

Venloo is a place of considerable strength, though of no great beauty, on the lower Maese, in the province of Geldre. It consists of only eight or nine hundred houses; most of the inhabitants are boatmen, carriers, porters, *&c.* Opposite to the town, lies an island in the Maese, called the *Waard*, with a strong bastion on it, for the defence of the town on that side; and fronting the island, on the other side of the Maese, stands fort St Michel, situated about two muſket ſhots from the town. It lies about ten miles S. W. from Geldres, and near forty N. E. from *Bois le duc*.

Bois le duc is situated at the confluence of the rivers *Bommel* and *Aa*, which after their junction here are called the *Diest*. At about four miles from hence, this river loses itself in the Maese, at a place called fort *Crevecœur*, from which, however, it may be diverted by means of a sluice, and the whole circumjacent country laid under water. The town is pretty large, and intersected with a great many canals. It was once a place of great strength, owing chiefly to an extensive moraſs about it, which being now in a great measure drained, renders it much leſs formidable than formerly. It is about twenty-five miles east, and a little north of Breda, and ten miles from fort Hewaden.

The French minister at war says, he has sent orders to Dumouriér, to lay immediate seige to Maestricht. The distance he will have to march from Williamstadt, before he can reach Maestricht, is very near 100 miles, so that even if no enemy ſhould oppose him, it cannot be invested in a very ſhort time.

*** *It is hoped the map of the seat of the war will be ready next week. Two letters from G. L. are received, both charged postage. No address of the kind he uses, unleſs for newspapers alone, can paſs free.*

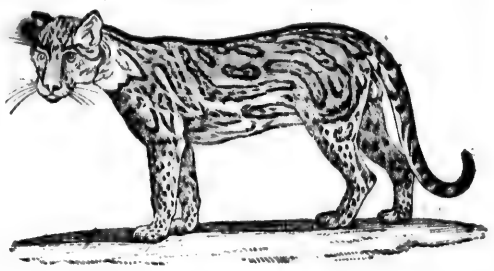
THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20. 1793.



THE OCELOT.

IT is somewhat remarkable, that many of the most ravenous creatures are extremely beautiful. The leopard, the tiger, the panther, and the ocelot, though among the most ferocious animals in nature, are also among the most beautiful, especially in what regards the colouring and spots on their ſkin; though the expreſsion of the countenance is nothing like so pleasing as that of the dog kind, another claſs of ravenous creatures, whose ferocity man has

known how to regulate and employ for his own purposes.

The ocelot resembles, in form, the other animals of the cat kind. In size it may be accounted nearly a medium between the tiger and the domestic cat. It is in length about four feet, and in height, about two feet and a half. Its ſkin is elegantly variegated by a great number of oblong marbled ſtripes. Its general colour is a bright tawny. A black ſtripe extends along the top of the back from head to tail; its forehead is ſpotted with black, as are alſo its legs; its ſhoulders, ſides, and rump, are beautifully marbled with long ſtripes of black, forming oval figures, filled in the middle with ſmall black ſpots. Its tail is ſingularly marked with large ſpots, and black at the end. The colours of the female are leſs vivid than thoſe of the male; neither is it ſo beautifully marked.

It is a native of South America; inhabits Mexico and Brazil; is very voracious and timid; but ſeldom attacks men. It is afraid of dogs; and when purſued flies to the woods.

It lives chiefly in the mountains, and conceals itſelf among the leaves of trees, from whence it darts upon ſuch animals as come within its reach. It ſometimes extends itſelf along the boughs, as if it were dead, till monkies, tempted by their natural curioſity, approach within its reach. It is ſaid to prefer the blood of animals to their fleſh.

This creature is among the moſt ſavage and untameable of all the ſavage tribe to which it belongs.

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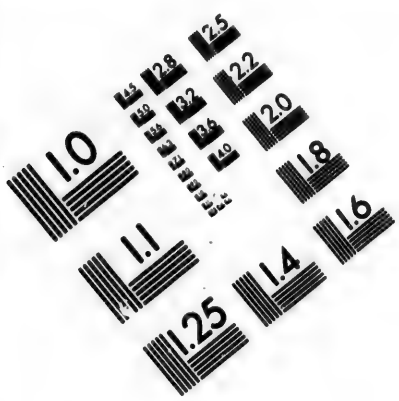

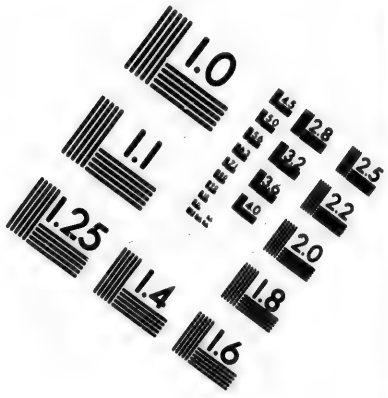

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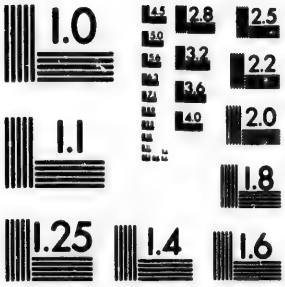

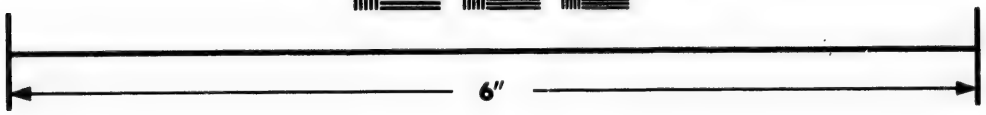

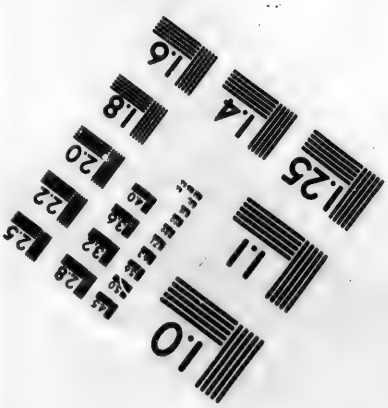

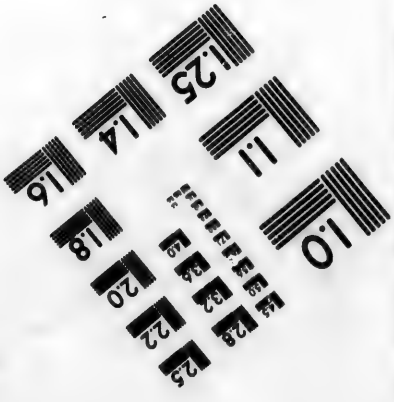

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No usage can make it gentle. It is perpetually restleſs, and seeking what it may devour. Thoſe which have been ſhown in Europe, therefore, muſt always be kept ſecured within a ſtrong cage, as the only means of guarding againſt miſchief by them. A male and female ocelot were brought from France ſome years ago, which had been taken when very young. At the age of three months they became ſo ſtrong and fierce, as to kill a bitch that was given them for a nurſe. When a live cat was thrown to them, they ſucked its blood, but would not taſte its fleſh. The male ſeemed to have a great ſuperiority over the female, as he never allowed her to partake till his own appetite was ſatisfied.

Like all the larger animals of the cat kind, the ocelot produces but a ſmall number at a time. The two above mentioned, were the only young ones found with the mother; which was killed at the time they were taken; and makes it probable they bring forth only that number.

Diſquisitions concerning the Mode of making Bricks among the Romans.

Continued from p. 66.

Glass makers are at preſent ſubjected to a very great expence by the breaking of their crucibles, which might be effectually obviated by employing a compoſition of the ſame nature with that above deſcribed. In the manufacture of glaſs it is neceſsary to have very large crucibles for containing the mel-

ted matter in great quantities. These crucibles must consist of materials that are very difficult to melt, and that are at the same time of a very compact texture. The only substance they have hitherto found, which poſseſses these properties, is a very pure kind of clay. This they reduce to a very fine powder; soak it in water till it becomes as soft as pap; it is then kneaded up with great care, into small pastils, of about half a pound weight each, which are allowed to dry till they become of a proper consistence. The workman then forms his crucible, by beginning at the bottom: this is done by succeſsive thin layers, worked dexterously one above the other, allowing the preceding one to dry a little before the next layer is applied. It is impoſsible to convey an adequate idea by words of the manner in which these layers are applied; but long practice has taught the men a manner of applying them, that is as efficacious as can be imagined, for closing the pores which are gradually produced by ſhrinking in drying, by succeſsively preſsing, from time to time, all the parts of the crucible, in every stage of the operation, from the time that the clay is first applied quite soft, till it has attained a very considerable degree of hardneſs; yet notwithstanding all this attention and care, it frequently happens that these crucibles are incapable of containing the melted glaſs from the beginning, or are bursted the very first time the fire is aplied to them. But if a considerable proportion of the clay were first burnt, and then powdered before it was mixed with the native clay, the composition would

ſhrink much leſs in drying, and would, by conſequence, be much leſs ſubject to be damaged by ſmall fiſſures, or to burſt upon the application of the fire.

These very glaſs men, although they have not thought of adopting this improvement, do nevertheleſs adopt a practice exactly founded on the ſame principles here recommended, in another branch of their buſineſs. It is neceſsary for them to have the ſides of their furnace coated with ſome kind of material that is able to reſiſt, for a very long time, the action of their very intenſe fire. This they find is beſt effected by a kind of bricks formed of the ſame kind of clay with their crucibles; but as it would have been a work of very great expence to work theſe bricks up in the ſame manner they do the crucibles, they have thought of abridging the labour, by mixing ſome dry powder with the clay paſte; and the powder they employ for this purpoſe is the old crucibles themſelves, after they have been baked in the furnaces ſufficiently, and when they are no longer fit for ſervice in that way. These old crucibles are then broken into ſmall pieces, which are afterwards grinded in a mill, like a ſugar baker's mill, till it is reduced to a groſs kind of powder, which is intimately mixed with the clay paſte in due proportion, and then formed into large bricks, about two feet in length and one foot in breadth, which dry ſlowly without any cracks or fiſſures, and when perfectly dry, are built into the furnace as occaſion may require, where they remain long, and perfectly reſiſt the greateſt heat that is ever applied to them, without ſhewing any tendency to vitrification.

It is probable that the old Roman bricks were formed, somewhat after the same manner, of clay alone, a part of which had been previously burnt and reduced to powder, to be mixed with the native clay, which would form a composition capable of bearing a fire sufficiently intense to reduce the whole to a stony state without vitrification. At any rate, it is certain, that by following this practice, we might form a kind of bricks that would be equally hard with the hardest native stone, and that would more effectually resist the impreſsions of the air, and viciſsitudes of weather, than almost any other stone, granite, perhaps alone, excepted.

Were a composition of this kind introduced into common use, it might be employed for many valuable purposes, not only in contributing to the durability of our buildings, but also in promoting the improvement of the fine arts; as I ſhall perhaps endeavour to ſhow in some future eſsay.

Roman bricks were of a much larger size than those of modern times. The reason of this smallneſs of size in our bricks is obvious; for as we are not at liberty to apply a great heat to any part of them, lest the outside ſhould be vitrified, ſhould we attempt to make them large, the heart of each brick would be entirely raw and unbaked, so as to be much worse than they are when formed of the present size. But were we at liberty to employ a ſufficient degree of heat to bake them to the heart, as could be safely done by adopting the plan suggested in the foregoing part of this eſsay, we might have bricks of any size that ſhould be judged most convenient.

In that case they might be moulded into elegant forms, so as to be fit for constructing ornamented walls, cornices, ballustrades, *&c.* at a much smaller expence than these can be cut in stone of any kind, while they would be at the same time more strong and durable.

Even columns, pilasters, and the other more elegant decorations of architecture, might then be executed of brick, not only at a much smaller expence than they could be formed of stone, but which would also be more light, strong, and durable.

Let us suppose that a column of four feet diameter was wanted;—if it was to be formed of any kind of stone, it must consist of a solid mafs of matter throughout its whole dimensions. But the same column might be formed of our brick, so as to be equally strong, though not of one half the weight, by forming them in the following manner.

We will suppose that the architect requires that the column fhould be formed of succefsive cylindrical pieces, of proper dimensions, placed one above another horizontally, for the whole height of the column. To form this of brick, let a hollow frame of wood be provided, of the proper height for each of these rings, whose internal diameter fhall be equal to that of the external diameter of the column, having the proper mouldings cut out upon it, and the whole bound together with hoops like a barrel. A number of smooth cylindrical pieces of wood are to be next provided, and fixed in an upright position near to, but not touching one another, throughout the whole heart of the column, leaving

it of a sufficient thickneſs on the outside. Things being thus prepared, let a little of the brick paste, duly mixed, be rammed firmly into all the interstices between the pieces of wood; when this has been suffered to dry a little, let some more be rammed firm above that, and so on till the whole cavity of the mould is filled to the top; taking care, at each time any freſh paste is added, to turn each of the cylinders in the heart, by means of a handle fixed to the top, once round, to keep them free. When the whole is so dry as to be in no danger of sinking by its own weight, let each of the cylindrical rods be gently drawn out, to allow it to dry; and after a due time the hoops may be knocked from the frame, and the pieces of it taken away, so as to allow that part of the column to remain by itself in a proper condition for being burned; and if a number of these pieces were formed as close to one another as might be, a frame of bricks could be raised round them, so as to permit them to be burned in the very place where they were formed, without being touched till they were converted into stone.

Many are the advantages that would result from these perforations. In the *first* place, by making so many internal surfaces, the contraction that must neceſsarily take place in drying, would be much leſs sensible on the external surface than it otherwise would have been. *Secondly*, the whole maſs would be allowed to dry much more quickly and more perfectly than it could have done if it had consisted of one uniform solid body. *Thirdly*, it could be much more easily and more perfectly burned; for

if all these cavities were filled with fuel, the internal parts of the column would be as perfectly burnt as the external parts of it. And, *lastly*, a great quantity of materials would be saved, and the column would be so much diminiſhed in weight, as to be not only much more easily manageable by the workmen, but much lighter for the foundation on which it stands, than it otherwise could have been*.

It will perhaps be imagined that these cavities would render the column much weaker than it otherwise would have been; but every mathematician in the kingdom can easily demonstrate, that the strength would hardly be at all diminiſhed from this cause. A reed of corn, which is entirely hollow, is but very little weaker than the same reed would have been if it had been entirely solid; but the several connecting rings, that unite every part of this column firmly to another, give it a degree of strength much greater than one hollow cylinder, of the same diameter, without these, would have been.

To give the column a still greater degree of firmneſs, than a stone column of the same size would have had, let some cylindrical pieces of brick be formed, of the same diameter with the cavities in the column, and let three of these be placed in three of the cavities, at different parts of the column, so as to have their upper ends about a foot above the the surface of the section of the column; which upper ends ſhould be received into the three corres-

* I ſhall have occaſion to ſhow hereafter, how many other useful purposes might be attained in architecture, that could not be accompliſhed by any other contrivance hitherto adopted.

ponding cavities in that cut of the column, that was to be placed upon it, so as to keep the joint immoveably firm. The advantages that would accrue from this contrivance are so obvious as to need no illustration. Where a column was so circumstanced, as that *weight* was necessary for giving it stability, that also could easily be effected at a small expence, merely by filling all the inside cavities with sand, or other matter, as the layers of the column were successively placed above each other.

The inside of such a column might be formed of strong coarse materials, although a thin coating of the finest kind of clay might be applied to the outside all round, so as to give it that beauty which is always so agreeable to the eye, at a very small expence. And if *basa relievoes*, or other very fine mouldings, were wanted, they could be formed with ease by the artist after the frame was removed, while yet the matter remained soft and ductile.

After the same manner might bricks be formed for walls, of any size or shape that might be wanted, so as to form the wall entirely, from top to bottom, of layers of stones, above one another, every where the thickness of the wall; every stone binding those below it, and securing their joints by means of pegs inserted in them, in different directions, so as to render it impossible to tear out any one stone without bringing others along with it.

It is unnecessary to add, that ornaments of any kind, mouldings, architraves, *bas reliefs*, &c. could be thus formed on these stones with the utmost facility*.

* The above was written many years ago, and the reasoning contained in it, has been practically confirmed by some experiments lately made by

ON THE REVENUE LAWS.

For the Bee.

I HAVE already, through the medium of the Bee, laid before the public some observations on the effects of very high duties on foreign commodities, in the production of smuggling, and its consequent evils, of diminishing the prosperity of the subject, and the amount of the revenue of government; and the importance of the subject, not only to the speculative philosopher, but also to almost every class of individuals in this island, will I hope apologise for a few additional animadversions on taxations, in which a different branch of the revenue laws will come under consideration.

The *excise* laws have, for these few years past, excited the most general dissatisfaction throughout Great Britain, but particularly Scotland. The principal causes of these just murmurs arise from the two following evils. The inconvenience occasioned to people in business by the many and complicated regulations that are imposed, in order to enforce payment of the duties; and the smuggling consequent on the magnitude of the taxes.

lord Dundonald, who, without any previous communication with the author, had devised the very same mode of forming an indestructable kind of brick, by means of the very fine clay he has lately discovered at Culross.—A kind of clay, which, on account of its great purity, and the absence of metallic impregnation, is perhaps better fitted for this purpose, and other works of fine pottery, than any other in Great Britain; and on account of the singularity of its situation, so very near a sea-port, can scarcely fail to become in time an object of great utility to the country, as well as to be highly beneficial to the proprietor.

Many of the regulations to which retailers of excised commodities, and manufacturers, are subjected, cannot, in the nature of things, be complied with. For example, a grocer is obliged, by law, to insert in a book every pound of tea he sells; to the veracity of which book, he must make oath within a stated period. Every one knows that a grocer cannot, without devoting a very great portion of his time to it, make up such a book; and the consequence is, that he puts down his tea now and then, from his memory, in the best way he can, without being able to comply with the statute. The same thing takes place with a retailer of wine, and several other articles that are under the excise. An excise officer may, at any time he pleases, without the smallest controul, oblige a tea dealer or a tobacconist to weigh over all his stock, however considerable; and if any inaccuracy takes place, either in the books kept by the dealer, or in the account taken at weighing, so as to occasion a difference betwixt the actual stock on hand, and what appears in the books of the officer, the party not only forfeits a quantity of the goods, equal to the difference, but is also liable in a considerable penalty, which he is condemned to pay, by a set of justices of the peace, without either jury or power of appeal. Hence it is very evident, that a rascal of an excise officer, (and many of them certainly are rascals,) on taking a spite at any man in business, may, without the smallest dread of punishment, curb his operations in trade to such a degree as to hurt him very materially. And moreover, in spite of all his care and endeavours to

comply with the laws, bring him often before the justice courts, under suits for penalties; and thus not only make him pay great sums of his money, gained perhaps with hard industry, but also make him waste the time that would otherwise be employed in the regular course of his business, by dangling after solicitors of excise, petty-fogging attornies, and overbearing justices of the peace. How can the the people be blamed for complaining against such a ruinous system of legislation? Nay, these are but small matters in comparison to some of the evils that the people groan under. I have only picked them out, because they can be easily discerned, and sooner told than many other heavier grievances.

It will be alleged that these curbs are necessary to prevent smuggling. If smuggling cannot be prevented but on these terms, the duties ought certainly to be reduced to such a pitch as to render them unnecessary. The duties are imposed for the general good, and ought to be borne by the community at large, not by *one* class of men; and in the present case it is certainly the manufacturers and traders that bear all the part that is really grievous of these excise laws; for the simple amount of the duty is of almost no consideration, in comparison to the hardships incurred in consequence of the regulations imposed for securing them.

With regard to the *oaths* so universally required in the present system of revenue laws, I think almost any person, on mature reflection, will agree, that they are very pernicious; and I refer the reader for the consideration of that part of the subject to

a paper that appeared in the Bee about eighteen months ago.

I do not present these reflections as invectives against administration, for the present ministry has certainly had great merit in suppreſsing smuggling; but, unfortunately, it has been done in many cases at the expence of the liberties of the people. It is therefore with a view to turn the attention of the well disposed members of our legislature, towards the remedy of the oppreſsion so much felt, that this and my former ſheets are offered to the public. The true test of the integrity of a minister, is certainly the attention he pays to the complaints of the people in matters affecting their own welfare. Such complaints are now coming in from all quarters, and upon the proper hearing of them, the stability of a minister *ought* to depend, and in these days I begin to hope it *will*.

If the Editor of the Bee indulge me so far, I ſhall make some remarks, in a future paper, on the manner in which the effects of smuggling are so much felt, in consequence of the exeise duties, in many manufactures carried on in North Britain.

Leith, Oct. 1792. TRADER POLITICAL.

THE TRAVELLER. No. VI.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER.

Continued from vol. xiii. *p.* 120.

Valencia.

IT is difficult for one who has never been out of Britain, to conceive the serenity and settled appear-

ance of a Valencian sky. Even now, near the middle of winter, the weather is mild, and the air agreeably perfumed with the fragrant odours exhaled from the delicious fruits that are not yet all gathered. The country is rich, fertile, beautiful, and gay. Trees, rising grounds, streams of water, diversify the landscape.

The fruits that are common to this place with Britain, are not all here in greater perfection; but some of them are infinitely superior; and there are others, to which, on being directly transplanted to it, our climate would be immediate death. The time, however, is coming, when ours will rival the first in quality, and when we will be enabled to cultivate even the others with succefs. When peaches were first raised in Italy, all the world was surprised that they could be brought to perfection out of Persia. What would Cæsar and Diodorus Siculus say, were they told that the most esteemed wines in Europe, are produced in Gaul, where they thought vines would not grow? or Strabo, if he knew that figs can be propagated in the north of Scotland? or Lucullus, that cherries will grow almost any where, which in his days were known only in Cerasus and the mild climates of Europe?

It is probable that the fluids of the animal and vegetable kingdoms circulate in nearly the same manner; and I have ever believed, that there is in, many respects, a much greater similarity between them than is generally imagined. Cause a native of the gold coast exchange habitations with an Es-

quimaux, or with an inhabitant of Terra del Fuego, and both will directly periſh. But if the change be gradually made, a few generations will enable each to live in the climate of the other. Trees and ſhrubs being altogether paſsive, will accomodate themſelves much more ſlowly to the change; but I have not a doubt, that those even of the torrid zone will move towards the poles, and become ſlowly inured to the climate; that the climate itself will be changed for the better; and that some thousands of years hence, reposing under their own olive tree, our posterity may quaff their own wine, and sip their own tea, sweetened with the juice of their own sugar cane. Delicious idea!—Perhaps it may be thought, that I puſh this analogy too far; but if we once admit a progreſs in these matters; (and here it cannot be denied,) there is no stopping.

The Spaniards speak with much gravity and solemnity. I studied hard at their language for a month at Marseilles, and I make myself understood tolerably well. My knowledge of Latin, French, and Italian, aſsists me greatly. Of all the languages with which I am acquainted, the Spaniſh approaches the nearest to the Latin. I stay in an inn, or hotel, if you please, where every person takes me for a German. I live in much the same way as I did at Paris. The waiters are dirty fellows; the cookery is also abominable.

There are no tides in the Mediterranean, and yet many historians relate, that Scipio surprised Carthagena, by entering the bason when it was low water. It seems, too, that his army was quite unac-

quainted with the ebbing and flowing of the sea; for he encouraged them by saying, that Neptune had promised to work a miracle in their favour. More than an hundred years after this, Cæsar's ignorance of the spring tides was attended with fatal consequences to many of his ships and transports in his first expedition to Britain. When they sailed down the Indus to the ocean, the surprise of Alexander the Great and his army, at the flowing of the tide, was more natural than this tale of Scipio. The causes of the tides are not yet understood. They cannot be owing to the influence of the sun and moon, though the times of their return so nearly and so regularly correspond, that they have been long attributed to this cause. Their influence would not extend to great bodies of water only, it would act upon every thing on our globe, which is of less specific gravity than water.

Spain is the best situated for commerce of all the European kingdoms; and though it is too dry and hilly to be fertile, and has no navigable rivers but the Guadalquivir, and that only for sixty miles, it might of itself furnish many articles for exportation. It is nighest the islands and rich provinces of America; and it has the same advantage with respect to India. Before the discovery of the passage by the Cape of Good Hope to India, when the commodities of that rich country were brought to Europe by the Indus, the Oxus, the Caspian Sea, the Volga, and the Don; by the Persian gulph, the Euphrates, Palmyra, and Syria; or by the Red Sea, and Alexandria, Spain, by its position, was ad-

mirably well calculated to serve as a magazine, from whence they might have been dispersed over all the north of Europe. Venice, whose situation was much less favourable, and who had raised herself to importance by this trade, was sensible that her power depended upon its preservation; and soon after the voyage of Vasco de Gama, proposed to the sultan of Egypt to cut the isthmus of Suez, or to join the Red Sea to the Nile, at her own expence; but the great difficulties of the undertaking prevented it from being attempted. The great Sesostris, about 1650, and Nechos, about 610 years before Christ, failed in the enterprise. Voltaire, who never quotes authorities in his admirable general history, says, it was accomplished by one of the ancient kings of Egypt; that it was repeated by Trajan, and by the caliph Omar too.

The Mediterranean offers here a very extensive market for the produce and manufactures of both India and America; and in return, furnishes many articles fit for the American trade, either produced by the countries upon its coasts, or conveyed thither by the many large rivers that run into it from the middle of Europe. The flour that always fetches the highest price in the West India market, and the choicest wines of France, might be brought by the canal of Languedoc, the Soane, and the Rhone; the produce of the rich provinces of Germany, of Hungary, Sclavonia, Transylvania, and the northern parts of the Turkish European dominions, by the Danube; and that of the most fertile provinces of Poland and Russia, by the Dneister, the Bog, the Nieper, and the Don.

When Spain comes again to enjoy the blefsing of a wise administration, under an enlightened government, the industry of the people will be directed into a channel the most proper for reaping the full benefit of her fortunate natural situation. W. E.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME CELEBRATED ENGLISH AUTHORS.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY EMINENCE LATELY DECEASED, TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WHO HAD REQUESTED HIS ADVICE IN REGARD TO THE PROPER MODE OF CONDUCTING HIS STUDIES.

LETTER II.

Continued from vol. xiii. *p.* 313.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

AGREEABLE to your request, I transmit to you another letter on the same subject with the last. I have three more by the same hand which shall be at your service if you require it. I am, Sir, your constant reader. A. J.

GIBBON is by no means a favourite author with me. His stile, which you seem to admire, appears to me the very reverse of what I should most esteem in an historian. The first requisite in historic stile is perspicuity; and in this particular no historian I ever read, not even Tacitus himself, is so defective as Gibbon. His expresions are quaint, and studiously inverted; and he is at so much pains to avoid colloquial phrases, that we find a perpetual strain to produce something new and more elevated than any

one else, that renders it often difficult to understand what he would say, even when narrating the most common occurrences. The same train of ideas seems to have influenced his mind in the choice of incidents, and in the manner of introducing them to the notice of his reader. Every thing is unnatural and inverted. Digreſsions are introduced within digreſsions, which perpetually distract the mind of the young inquirer. He feels himself introduced as it were into an inchanted palace, involved in a blaze of torch light, which, reflected in various ways from concealed mirrors, present before him all at once a multiplicity of objects with which he is entirely unacquainted; gorgeous in extreme, indeed, but moving past with such velocity that his senses are confounded. He contemplates the whole as a most brilliant magical exhibition, which is inchanting for the present; but which when gone, leaves nothing but an indistinct remembrance of gaudy objects, which he can never again recognise in the scenes of nature. No writer in any language seems to me so improper to be put into the hands of youth as Gibbon; were it merely because this manner of writing tends to corrupt the taste, by encouraging a propensity, which is but too natural to youth to admire,—a superfluity of ornament. But when we likewise consider that he has a perpetual tendency to make indirect attacks upon religion, which ought not to be introduced in this light manner into historical compositions, as well as to introduce philosophical disquisitions, which can neither be in this manner explained nor understood; his history, therefore, appears to me to be a work highly exceptionable; and for young and

uninformed minds, exceedingly improper. It gives them a slight smattering of many things that they cannot thoroughly understand; makes them petulant and assuming, and ever upon the catch to display the brilliancy of their talents, than which nothing can be more disgusting.

STUART.— Gilbert, like most of those who have gone before, possessed talents of no ordinary sort; but, like them also, his writings have great defects which detract much from their merit. As an historian no reliance can be had upon him. The violence of his prejudices against living authors led him perpetually astray. The object with him seems rather to have been to prove that those he disliked had gone wrong, than to be right himself; and the quickness of his talents enabled him to do this with a wondrous degree of facility. As his knowledge of mankind too, was chiefly confined to those of the most dissolute class, his ideas were gross, and often expressed with little delicacy. His stile is therefore characterised, when he wrote, without affectation, as being nervous rather than elegant; but in the last pieces he wrote, it was affected, and unnatural in the extreme, and so full of Gallicisms, that it may be called *Frenchified English*. It was a wretched model to copy; but having seen Johnson and Gibbon, each attain a high degree of celebrity, by adopting a stile equally unnatural and barbarous, he seems to have aimed at obtaining fame in the same way. As far as his influence goes, I therefore consider him as one of the corruptors of good taste in English composition, and of course unfit to be put into the hands of youth, should there be no other ob-

jection to his writings; of which in truth there are but too many. How often have we occasion to regret in the course of this survey, that great talents should be prostituted to such unworthy uses!

Perhaps it is more difficult to acquire an easy unaffected natural stile in writing, than any other; and when it is acquired, though it affords more pleasure to the attentive reader than any other, it excites less enthusiastic admiration than that turgid, unnatural, and affected mode of writing I have so often had occasion to reprehend in these letters. I have dwelt the more upon this head at present; because you are yet young, and may be supposed to be affected by the things that naturally catch youthful minds,—glitter and show. I remember when I was young, I used to read with extacy Rasselas, prince of Abyssinia, and other jargon of the same sort; which I now nauseate as the filth of literature. Of all the writers already named, Franklin is, in this respect, the purest; Hume and Robertson follow after. The others I wish not more to name, because I could not do it without expressions of high disgust.

But if you wish to see the *natural* stile in the highest perfection, read the works of the late Dr John Gregory, all of which possess that charm which Horace would have called the *simplex munditiis* in a high degree. But in particular, his Comparative View, which in respect to natural ease, and unaffected elegant simplicity of stile is not to be exceeded in any language; and in as far as my reading has extended, has not been equalled by any other

composition in Engliſh. You have probably read it, and if you have, I will venture to say, you went through the whole book without ever once having had your attention called off from the subject to admire the ſtile. So properly are the words chosen to convey the idea, that they always lead the mind directly forward to the object in view, without the smallest rub of any kind to call off the attention; and it is only after you have completed your journey, and have time to look back, that you begin to perceive the beauty and the perfection of that road which conducted you so happily to the journey's end. A writer may be compared, in some respects, to a player. He who by unnatural geſtures, and exaggerated contortions of countenance, outrages nature, is sure to set the whole house in an uproar, by the continued plaudits of the undiscerning multitude. But when a Garrick appears, the player is forgot; he seems to be the very simple clown, himself, he represents; and the uninformed spectator wonders why any one ſhould admire that which he sees every day among his simple neighbours. Or if he represents a scene of dignified diſtreſs, the representation is so natural, so irresistibly pathetic, that the mind has no leisure to attend to any thing else but the affecting object before them. Admiration, applause, and every other feeling, are suspended in the agony of silent heart-felt sympathy; and a stranger at that time entering and observing the audience, without attending to the stage, 'would wonder why they were so silent.' Never is a player treading, with proper dignity, the tragic stage, when, in an interesting scene, the au-

dience can find leisure to admire the art, and the high attainments of the actor. It was a high eulogium, indeed, that a friend of mine once paid to Mrs Crawford, then Mrs Barry, as an actress, when he said, that, in a very full house, the audience were so overcome as scarcely to venture to breathe; "You might have heard a pin, (said he,) drop upthe floor." How different this from the noisy applause that overstrained grimace so necessarily excites! Gregory's stile may be compared to the acting of Garrick;—it is only by a retrospective view that its superior excellence can be discovered.

I am happy, my dear boy, that I can close this letter with one sincere eulogium at least; for I am afraid the preceding part of my remarks would appear to you so severe, that you might suspect they were dictated by ill nature, or envy of some sort. To those who know me less than you do, this would be so natural, that I should not perhaps have ventured on giving my opinion so freely to others as I have done to you. I have not yet exhausted this subject; but I will not run the risk of effacing these pleasing impressions on your mind, by any farther remarks at present; as it is but very seldom indeed that I can have occasion to bestow applause with as little abatement as in the case just now before us. It is by contemplating the chaste models of antiquity, and the very few modern productions that can vie with them, that you can attain a just notion of what is meant by beauty of composition; but when you do attain it, you will find it is a source of great enjoyment. Adieu.

EXTRACTS FROM SIR THOMAS MORE, A TRAGEDY.

[*Just published.*]

Sir Thomas More, and Margaret his daughter.

Sir Thomas. CHILD, I must fall.
I cannot, with integrity, support
My ruin'd fortunes. To escape from want
I must be cruel to a virtuous soul,
To a deserted widow without friends,
Tho' all-deserving.
Margaret. Sooner let us want
Life's necessary blessings, bread to eat,
A house to live in, clothes to cover us,
And beds to sleep on.
Sir Thom. There my daughter spoke.
I will defy the hardest lot of life.
Can'st thou believe it, Marg'ret, that the king
Gave me the noble office which I hold,
Only to bribe me, to procure my voice
Against poor Catharine! And shall I give it?
No! though it rouse his anger mountain high,
And for my loyalty I lose my head!
There is but one thing that with-holds my hand,
Making me cautious how I give offence,
And 'tis indeed a circumstance that grieves me.
'Tis that our fortunes are so interwoven,
The blow that ruins me will ruin you;
Will sensibly affect my innocent house,
And make my children beggars like myself.
Margaret. Sir let it not disturb you.
Sir Thomas. I would fall,
God knows how willingly, and beg my bread,
Rather than trespass as the king desires.
But how shall I requite it to my children!
Dancy depends on me; my own son
Has nothing yet to live on; thou hast little.
My father could not help us; all he had
Goes to his widow ere it comes to us.
My lady Alice will have no support.
We shall be scatter'd like the worried flock,
And each must seek for shelter with her own.
Thou must retire with Roper to his farm.
Cecilia must with Heron to his father's.
The little I have left must be bestow'd
On lady Alice, Dancy, and Eliza.
John and myself must starve, or be content
To earn by labour every meal we eat.

Margaret. Dear Sir, you break my heart. Be more compos'd.
Our little fortunes will be wealth enough.
Send Dancy to his father's. You, and John,
And lady Alice, come and live with us;
Or let us hire adjoining houses, small
And suited to our incomes.
Sir Thomas So we will.
I will not part from my whole happineſs;
Tho' cruel fortune scatter all the rest,
Marg'ret ſhall be my hope and comfort still.
Margaret We will be modest in our wants;—discharge
All but one servant each; live on plain diet;
And nicely manage our exhausted means.
We will ſhun pleasure and expensive dreſs,
And live secluded from the public eye,
Contented though reduc'd. We will not ask
The neighbour or the stranger to our board,
But steal away to solitude and books,
Pleas'd with the mem'ry of triumphant virtue,
And poverty preferr'd to vicious wealth.
If yet our wants are more than we can feed,
We will be unattended. My own hand
Shall do the housewife's work; ſhall spin and knit,
And earn by industry sufficient bread.
Sir Thomas. My most deserving daughter! Thou wast born
To teach thy father virtue. I was sad;
But the sweet patience of thy pious heart
Revives and gives me comfort. Yes, I'll go,
And gladly bid farewell to courts and princes.
Poor we must be, but we will still be just,
And live upon the hope of better days.
We will presume the Author of events
Approves of our endeavours; and perhaps
Yet ere we come to sorrow and the grave,
Will bleſs our patience with an easier lot.
Come, we will hence contented. For my father,
Let us esteem him happy that he died.
He saw our glory, and withdrew in peace.
Go to my lady; tell her my intent.
Reveal it to your sisters; honest girls!
They will be griev'd to hear how soon we part.
Tell thy unwelcome story by degrees,
And mingle comfort with it. I'll to court,
And when we meet again, meet me with joy,
Tho' I return as poor as I was born.
I ſhall not be long absent.

Northern Fisherman, a Tale.

Concluded from p. 74.

The fishery had been unsuccessful in Scotland for that season; and William finding employment in one of the Gravesend boys, they determined not to return immediately to Scotland, but to remain for some time on the Thames; and Betsy, who was a good sempstress, sewed for a slopseller in Wapping; in which way they lived very comfortably and happily for about nine months. They were one evening sitting by their little fire side,—William was enjoying his pipe, and Betsy, with her work in her hand, was singing over the sleeping child in the cradle, when they were surprised with a hoarse voice in the passage, bellowing out, "By G—d Scotch Will is one of the tightest fellows on the Thames; and d—n me if we miss him." 'Good God, the press!' cried Betsy, and fell back in a swoon. The ruffians forced open the door, seized William, carried him off with imprecations and blows, not even allowing him to see his beloved wife revive, and bid her adieu. She just opened her eyes, soon enough to receive his parting significant look, while he sighed out,—'Farwell Bess!'

Poor Betsy's misery was now greater than ever. She was in a large city, surrounded with persons given up to villany and vice of every species; an infant in the cradle, and very near the period of bringing forth another, with scarce a friend within 400 miles of her. Her tender heart almost sunk under her misfortunes; and she would often look on her smiling child, and sigh out, "I live only for thee!"

She could hear no more of William; he was buried in an impenetrable multitude of ſailors of all deſcriptions; and Betsy was conſtrained to keep herſelf away from the places where ſhe might have a chance of learning ſomething of her huſband, in order to avoid the brutal addreſſes paid to beauty by the ſenſual unthinking tars.

Three weeks paſsed over and Betsy had now very little money to ſupport herſelf and child; as her gainings from the ſlopſeller were ſmall; and William had left but little from his ſavings; as he had not foreſeen the diſaſter that was to befal him a ſecond time. She was delivered of another child. After paying all her neceſſary expences, her money was exhauſted; and the ſlopſeller refuſed to advance any thing on her future work. To gain a temporary ſupport, till ſhe ſhould be able again to work, ſhe was obliged to pawn almoſt all the little ſuperfluous articles of dreſs that ſhe had,—and theſe were but few; for Betsy was not fond of external ſhow. The burdens of anxiety and grief, hung ſo heavily on her mind, that ſhe recovered very ſlowly; and the landlord began to grow importunate for the payment of his bill. She begged an audience of him; and repreſented, with a woman's eloquence, the hardſhips ſhe had undergone, and prayed that he would indulge her with a little time, that ſhe might either earn a little money by her work, or receive a ſupply from her friends in Scotland. The cruel monſter was ſteeled againſt ſuch remonſtrances. He ſwore it was all a damn'd fetch; that ſhe was no better than ſhe ſhould be; that the devil a turn ſhe would work, while ſhe could ſteal; and that ſhe had no more friends in Scotland than he had in Rome. In ſhort, he concluded by ſaying, that his houſe was no place for ſuch game as ſhe was; and that ſhe muſt either pay him his money, or begone that night. This was more than humanity could

bear! ſhe was perfectly distracted! ſhe ran with her infant in her arms to the slopseller, begging aſsistance. He very ſhortly told her to leave his ſhop; or he would desire his servants to turn her out by the ears. It is thus that men forsake us when we stand in need of their friendſhip, and heap favours on us when we want them not!

Betsy sobbed, and looking on her child, cried, "Would I were dead, were it not for thee!" At this moment a meſsenger came in from the church wardens, in consequence of the landlord's interference, who was one of their number, intimating that the pariſh could not support her basturds; and that unleſs ſhe took away the child ſhe had left behind her, ſhe would be immediately taken to the correction house as a vagrant. A piece of linen had been left on a chair, without the counter; and no one seemed to know that it was there. The distracted mother thought within herself, "What can be a crime that is neceſsary to save two innocent babes from destruction, when no one can feel a loſs by it?" With a trembling hand ſhe lifted the roll of linen, and left the ſhop. This ill reliſhed relief, with dismal thoughts ſhe carried to a pawn broker, and got upon it a guinea, with which ſhe paid the brutal landlord his due, and had a few ſhillings over, destined to support for a ſhort time her miserable existence.

The active administrators of justice were soon sent in pursuit of the unhappy Betsy. She was, with her two infants in her arms, dragged to Newgate, under the sad doom of standing trial as a felon. Sad indeed! especially to her, whose uncorrupted heart ſhrunk back, impreſsed with the deepest horror at the thought of having transgreſsed the sacred rules of virtue, and of justice. But nothing could relieve her; and the innocent looks of her helpleſs babes heightened the sorrow of her depreſsed mind.

The ſeſſions came on; and the trembling victim muſt appear at the bar of the Old Bailey, indicted for theft. It happened then, that captain Young of Leith, was in the court. He was a man of a charitable, and upright diſpoſition, and knew Betsy and her huſband well. William had on one occaſion ſaved his ſhip, the Induſtry, by carrying out an anchor at the riſk of his own life, to Leith roads, in a violent ſtorm; and ever ſince then he had entertained a very high ſenſe of gratitude for that ſignal ſervice. Aſtoniſhed at the appearance of Betsy at the bar, he ran to her; and ſhortly learned the melancholy circumſtances that had contributed to her ruin. He encouraged her drooping ſpirits, by aſſurances of his utmoſt endeavours to ſave her, by ſeeing the ableſt counſel, and coming forward himſelf as evidence of her unblemiſhed character. But all was in vain; the proof was clear; nothing could with-hold the horrible ſentence of tranſportation; and the innocent culprit was again thrown into her dungeon. Captain Young, however, ſtill afforded her ſome relief, by the aſſurances of her dear little ones being properly taken care of, and carried back to their relations in Scotland; and that by his interference in making proper explanations, her character, which ſhe ſo much valued, ſhould as much as poſſible be preſerved from ſtain.

Half mad with deſpair, the fair ſacrifice to juſtice lay deploring her fate, ſhuddering at the idea of her William's ſorrow on hearing of her misfortune, and weeping with grief for being torn from her tender infants. When ſome days had thus paſſed away, captain Young appeared, and with a joyous ſmile on his countenance that aſtoniſhed Betsy, threw a piece of parchment on the board, and ſaid, "Read that, and be thankful for your deliverance." It was her pardon. Captain Young was acquainted with the great and humane Mr Goodall, member of parliament for

Fife, through whose means the case had been represented to his majesty's ministers, and the pardon procured. Good actions seldom remain for ever unrewarded! the bravery and magnanimity of William once rendered an important service to the man through whose means his dear wife was afterwards saved from perpetual perdition.

Accommodated with money, Betsy now got comfortable lodgings; and nothing but the return of William was wanting to re-establish peace and comfort, the value of which is felt tenfold by those whom misfortune has once scourged.

Ere long a treaty was concluded with Russia; and the paying off of the seamen restored William to his again happy wife. They determined to return immediately to their own part of the country; and on their arrival found, that, by the death of an uncle, William had acquired a fortune of L. 300. With this sum, determined never again to be subjected to the cruelty of the press, he formed the design of commanding a vessel himself; and with that view purchased a passage boat, with which he now plies betwixt Leith and Kinghorn, loved as formerly by all that know him. And Betsy, graced with her beautiful rising offspring, keeps a ribbon shop on the shore. Health and plenty crown their happiness.—Long may they enjoy it!

Last week William called together a meeting of his acquaintances, for the purpose of drinking to the health of Mr Pitt, and those who have so generously stepped forward on this occasion, and by liberal rewards have contrived to forward the armament now going on, without adopting the miserable expedient of pressing seamen; but treating them like other free Britons. On the thoughts of which their honest hearts swell with loyalty to their king and country.

Leith, March 10. 1793. A. A. L. L.

Instances of remarkable Bodily Strength.

Peter of Portugal lifted with his right hand a sack of wheat, and put it upon his left ſhoulder; then he put upon his right ſhoulder another sack full of wheat with his left hand. One day a lad of twenty-five years of age presented himself at court, saying he could ſhow the king something extraordinary with reſpect to ſtrength. He obtained permiſsion to appear before the king. That youth having ordered three sacks of wheat to be brought, did with the two first what the king had done; he then took a third sack into his teeth, and threw it above that which he had on his left ſhoulder. This surprised all the spectators, and astoniſhed the prince, who could not enough admire the force and addreſs of this youth. They say the prince in vain attempted to imitate him. This youth exceeded the other Portuguese of his time in stature; he was hard and thin, and was a great eater. What was still more extraordinary, this youth could hold fast a chariot drawn by six horses or cattle, in spite of their utmost efforts to go on. The name of this youth is not preserved upon record; it is only known that he was a native of the village of Freixo; which made him be called *Menino de Freixo* *.

* The readers of the Bee will not suspect that the last instance of strength is given as an article of undoubted veracity; but merely as a proof of the credulity of the times in which the event is said to have happened. Before the days of lord Bacon, men were so little in the train of investigating facts, that nature was unknown almost entirely; and the powers of man, and other animals, so seldom appreciated, that impoſsibilities were never thought of. By magical charms, it was believed, that the most wonderful things could be performed; so that if Breslaw had then existed, it would have been seriously believed that all the wonderful feats he performed, instead of being feats of great dexterity, and slight of hand deceptions, were things actually done and completed. By keeping these things in view, we will be able to account for the prevalence of many notions in former times, that are now justly exploded as fabulous. And without impeaching the veracity of witneſses, who have attested wonderful events, which they said they saw happen, we may still doubt the facts; because although the witneſses *believed* what they attest, they still might be mistaken. *Edit.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27. 1793.

ON THE BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED FROM FOREIGN TRAVELS.

——Facilis decensus Averni:
Noctes atque dies patet atri janua ditis.
Sed revocare gradum, superasque evadere ad auras,
Hoc opus, hic labor est.——

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I HAD no conception of the extent of my old friend's genius, till in turning over a volume of Tournefort's travels, I found the following copy of a letter to his eldest son upon his travels. A. B.

CALEDONIUS RUSTICUS' LETTER TO HIS SON.

DEAR SON,

"I have three of your letters to acknowledge, one from Lyons, one from Blois, and the last from Paris. I am sorry to find you flying like a harlequin from place to place, without remaining long enough in any one to make useful observations.

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"I have three of your letters to acknowledge, one from Lyons, one from Blois, and the last from Paris. I am sorry to find you flying like a harlequin from place to place, without remaining long enough in any one to make useful observations.

" This is the ridiculous error of all our countrymen, and I thought I had said and written enough to you upon the subject to have inclined you to follow my directions.

" The cause of this fatal error is to be found in the preposterous mode of Britiſh education. Young men of faſhion are confined for ten or a dozen years to learn the word for a pen, in three or four different languages; and to read, write, compose, and harangue, in all theſe, before they have been taught to think, or to reason with discernment.

" While the real powers of the mind are thus laid asleep by mechanical and uniform employment, the brutal paſsions of the young *animal*, riſing with the vigour and rage of his manhood, plunge him into all the exceſses and miseries of debauchery. Street bullies, and bucks, and bloods, and dirty women of the town, become the real profeſsors, whose vile leſsons they imbibe, and whose sentiments and manners they gradually acquire.

" They then go abroad, to take what is called the tour of Europe, with a selfiſh, slaviſh, pedantic, *compagnon de voyage*, commonly called *a leader of bears*; and after having played monkey tricks at all the faſhionable courts in Europe, and been plucked and fleeced by ſharpers and opera girls, they come home when of age to join in recognizances with their worthy fathers; and, as a reward, are introduced into all the faſhionable clubs as promising young men, *tout a fait aimables et polis*. Then you see them almost every night drunk in the boxes of the playhouse and opera house, flirting with the beau-

ties of the day, who declare them to be charming young men; but, Good la! Charlotte, how naughty and roguiſh!—I declare they flurry me exceedingly.

"Then they are brought into parliament, to decide on the great and *intricate interests* of the nation; or they go down to papa's family mansion, to surprise the girls at country hunts and aſsemblies, and to follow a glorious pack of beagles, or fox hounds, to which they are gradually aſsimilated, as they had been formerly to the other *dramatis personæ* at Eton, or Westminster.

"This is not the plan of operations, my dear son, that I adopted in *your* education; and *you* are responsible for a very different line of conduct. You must therefore prepare yourself for the very different expectations of your family, and of your country.

"There is scarce any country, how rude and uncultivated soever, where the inhabitants are not poſseſsed of some peculiar secrets, either in nature or art, which might not be transplanted with succeſs. Thus, for instance, in Siberian Tartary, the natives extract a pleasing invigorating spirit from milk, which is a secret, perhaps, unknown to the chemists of Europe. In the most remote parts of Hindostan they are poſseſsed of the secret of dying vegetable substances scarlet, and of changing lead into a metal which for hardneſs and colour is little inferior to silver.

"The power of the Asiatics in bringing down rain in parched seasons, and producing ice in the torrid

zone for cooling their fruits and liquors, Europeans are apt to treat as fabulous; as they would the laying the agitation of a sea surf on a rocky ſhore, by pouring a few hogſheads of train oil upon it; or as they would have treated the secrets of gunpowder and the mariner's compaſs, had they been told 600 years ago that the Chineſe used such arts, and that of printing, before they were discovered in Europe.

"Of all the philosophers that have appeared, I most revere *Bacon*; that great and hardy genius. He it was, who, undaunted by the seeming difficulties that oppose new and extraordinary inventions, prompted the *human* curiosity to examine every part of nature, and to trust to experiment, without regard to ancient prejudices. It was he that exhorted man to try whether he could not subject the lightning of heaven, and the convulsions of the earth to human controul; and I am told there is a man in Pensylvania who rose from a printer's devil, who has verified one of these conjectures. Oh! had a man of this daring spirit; of this genius, penetration, and learning, travelled to the countries you propose to visit, what might not mankind expect? How would he have enlightened the regions to which he travelled! And what a vast variety of knowledge and useful improvement would he have brought back in exchange!

"My dear son, there is no country so hostile or barbarous that will not disclose all it knows, if it receives equivalent information. All your care in travelling ſhould be to suit your conversation to the people of the country where you reside; study the

familiar phrases in their language of intelligence, without which nobody can ask a proper question; and as soon as you can ask questions *properly*, apply yourself in familiar conversation with eminent farmers, artists, and men of science. The information you may be able to give concerning your own country, will be an equivalent for the information you may receive. Curiosity will balance curiosity, and both parties will be satisfied and instructed. This, my dear son, is that citizenship of the world which I wish you to obtain; and which, by a noble institution, an apprenticeship at home, I have enabled you to acquire abroad.

"Strive, my dear son, to obtain it! Make my heart and my soul to rejoice in your advancement in knowledge and virtue; and make to go down with joy to the grave, the gray hairs of your affectionate friend and father,

CALEDONIUS RUSTICUS."

FRAGMENTS BY LORD BACON.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 25.

* * * * IT may be sayed that the marvellous age of Piatski, duke of the Poles, and of some other potentates, belyeth what I advance concerning health and longevity by temperance; but it is to bee duely pondered, that Piatski and others, who are introduced in impugnation of the thesis, were trained in rusticity, or certainly in simplicity of manners and

consuetude, and therefore by no means to bee brought in opposition to my argument.

That health is exceedingly promoted by temperance and an equable flow of the spirits, is remarkably sett forth in the lives of the ancient pedagogues. Gorgias, the master of Isocrates lived to bee 104. The year before his death some one demanded, in his school, how hee had been able to support soe long the tedious and oppressive burden of old age; to which the sophist replyed, "That hee regretted nothing hee had done, and felt nothing of which hee could reasonably complain: my youth, (sayed hee,) cannot accuse mee, nor can I accuse mine old age." Isocrates, his scholar, in the ninety-fourth year of his age, published a book, and survived that publication four years; in all which time he betrayed not the least failure, either in memory, or in judgement; but as hee had long lived, so hee died, with the reputation of being the most eloquent man in Greece*. Xenophilus, an eminent Pythagorean philosopher, taught a numerous train of scholars, till he arrived at the age of 105; and even then enjoyed a very perfect state of health, and retained his abilities to the last.

In the luxurious age of Augustus, Lucius Volusius escaped all the fatal consequences of intemperance, by a life dedicated to agriculture and contemplation. Illustrious in his retirement, and though possessed of great opulence, never obnoxious even

* Plutarch in vit. Isocrat.

to the bloody spirits of the Roman tyrants, hee attained his ninety-third year.

Now, as from the whole tiſsue of biographical investigation, touching the acquisition and preservation of health, it will bee found that temperance, and rationall pleasing engaging pursuits, are the great agents whereby the important bleſsing is gained and secured, let us conclude that the first and grand element of the art of life is the regiment of health.

As I have written elsewhere, "there is a wisdom in this beyond the rules of physick, a man's own observation; what hee finds good of, and what hee finds hurt of, is the best physick to preserve health."

A man may surely avoyd the appearance of extraordinary singularity of dyet, or regiment of health, and yet govern his proceedings therein with a due regard to the good estate of his bodie; and this ought to be early impreſsed upon the minds of our youn⁊ people, when at the age of puberty they are entering in the world, and the seas of the dangerous syrens.

The stallions of Spayne are kept chaste untill a goodly age, that their strength bee fully confirmed; and they are young when ours are only fit to bee given to the dog kennel.

They are also accustomed to the company of the females without being unseasonably rampant and exceſsive, and may be set forth as an example and pattern for the conduct of our youth in the first attainment of vigorous manhood.

In the proper fruition therefore of the pleasure incident to the married estate, wee may place another

great rule for the regiment of health, and the art of life.

During the whole of the estates of youth and of manhood, the desire of pleasing the other sex doeth constitute a great part of the common ambition of fashionable life; and as much of that part of life among all ranks of men, as time and opportunity will permit.

Now let it be duely perpended by our Strephons, that their Chloes will esteem them rather for the riches they have yet to bestow, than for the money they have thrown away in handfuls among the populace.

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* * * * Moreover, though it bee true that from the commodity and artificial aids of society, man's instincts are much less vigorous and instructive than those of the brutes, yet nevertheless there are strong indications among savage nations, of humane instincts, that deserve due consideration among those that are most civilized.

The natives of the torrid zone, whose stomachs and other viscera are apt to be relaxed by the heat of the climate, and where the bile overflows from similar causes, bountiful nature hath not only afforded infinite plenty and variety of carminiatives and antiscepticks, but given to the people an insatiable propensity to mix them with their ordinary food. Sir Walter Raleigh reporteth, that it is even common for the natives of these burning climes to devour the pod of the pepper tree as they pass along in the fields; and that they chew also the bitter barks

of sundry trees, during the seasons of the rainy weather, which is found to keep them from the fever which then rages with singular fury.

The use therefore of carminiatives and spices, ought to be substitued to that of strong liquors, which are not attainable by the poor, and are so apt, by excefs in the use of them, to hurt the health of the opulent.

It is a strange custom that prevails so universally among men, that of confounding their senses by fermented liquors, and seemeth to have been devised by savages somewhat advanced in the arts of agriculture, who found a dreadful listlefsnefs in the intervals of hunting and rural occupation, when corn and fruits grew with such abundance as to produce with lefs labour than was necefsary to excite their active powers in a regular succefsion.

The account given in the Scriptures of the first introduction of the fermented juice of the grape, favours the conjecture that the discovery was accidental; since it cannot be supposed that Noah, with the experience of six or seven hundred years, would have exposed himself to the view of his servants and children in a state inebriety, which he must have been able otherwise to have foresеen.

Now, as far the greater part of the human kind do abstain from the use of fermented and strong potations, as among the Indian nations of Asia, the custom seemeth not to originate from nature, but habit; so that by a contrary habit it may bee vanquifhed.

To those, however, who would seek this noble victory over a vitious practice, it may be counselled that they ought not in the conflict with it to attempt either too much or too suddenly, nor yet too little: for if too much, the custom or second nature, as it hath been called, will be too strong for them; and if too little, the strength of the opposite intention will not have sufficient exercise. Invasion of uxorious rivers are best guarded against by throwing down small peebles on the margins thereof, where the invasion was experienced; and in like manner, the invasion of evil habits is most effectually to bee obviated by numberleſs and continual small increments of resolution, obtained by succeſsful opposition to the stream of paſsion or appetite, till at last there obtaineth a strong bulwark of an opposite habit.

To be continued.

ON POPULAR SUPERSTITIONS IN RUSSIA.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As you offer at the end of your *prospectus raisonné*, a place in the Bee for *foul fiends*, I have a northern one, named *Damavoy*, whom I heartily wiſh *there*, out of my stable, where he takes inconvenient liberties with my horses, who by no means agree with midnight rides, and daily drives.

After much learned research into the family and pedigree of this Ruſsian goblin, I have made a discovery which I doubt not will recommend me to the

favour of the good old villagers of Scotland, if they are the same I left them thirty years ago, however it may be scouted at by the superior clafs of your readers, who must not alwavs be pleased.

I have discovered, then, that Damavoy is the elder brother of your Scotch Browny, who must have emigrated to Scotland with your Danifh ancestors, as I hope to demonstrate by the following authentic state of facts.

1st, There still exists a branch of the family in both Denmark and Norway, known to the good people of a certain clafs and age, by the name of *Nifse*. This little funny fellow, is commonly seen in a red cap and a brown coat, (the very drefs he probably carried to Scotland with him, and got his name from,) either on the top of a house, or the back of a horse at grefs, especially in a dark night; or strolling in the woods, enticing the cows to lose their way. But he is, above all, accused of setting the peasants by the ears, and laughing heartily at the joke; this truth any one may convince himself of, by only walking a little way into the dark wood, and listening at midnight to little Brown Coat's mirth. Sweden I find boasts of another branch of the Damavoy family, called in the language of that country *Tompte Grubbe*, or the little old man of the house, (probably the wren of the nest, by his diminutive size,) whose little bonnet is sometimes found in the woods by the peasants, and carefully left in its place untouched, as the little gentleman is remarkably choleric and irrascible when meddled with, particularly if left bare headed in winter. As to his

other tricks and caprices, they appear to be much the same with those of his Danish and Norwegian brothers.

In short, Mr Editor, I have discovered that this fairy, or goblin family, is originally from the north; and that there are branches of it in the five northern countries within my line of research, including Scotland, which certainly cannot with much propriety be called a southern kingdom. I presume, then, that by giving the history of the branch nearest the *pole*, (the seat of the family in all probability,) it will pretty nearly characterise the whole fraternity, allowing for the modifications of climate, and other local circumstances, which must have more or less affected the propagande in a lapse of ages. However it is but doing common justice to the races, when branding them with such an epithet, to declare, that according to the best information I have been able to obtain, they are much less dangerous than the new propagande of foul fiends, who are at present wandering about Europe, to disturb the peace of men, whilst Damavoy and his family content themselves with a few pranks on old women and cattle. But indeed these plotting imps, and all other devils I have heard or read of, are *fiery* fiends; whilst mine, you will observe Mr Editor, (and I beg to claim priority of discovery,) are *icy* devils, a span new genus, which cannot be accused of antediluvianity, feudal origin, or of having been disgraced by the respect of our ancestors, which I know are sufficient causes of rejection and damnation in your part of the world at present.

In compliance with the sceptic spirit of the times, I shall begin with my authorities, who are in general grave matrons, worthy of credit from their age and ample information on the subject, which they deal out by the hour, when they can find an audience; and to the horror of my goblin spirit of research be it spoken, I have frequently been ranked amongst the respectful hearers of those village wonders. But above all I must acknowledge particular obligation, to a venerable hoary coachman, whose silver beard gives credibility to the weekly report he brings up from the stable, of oats, bridles, and such like stable items, being scattered abroad and lost, by the equestrian fiend. Sometimes Damavoy takes a whim to ride in the night, then the poor animal is found all in a sweat in the morning, requiring rest when the master requires exercise. Sometimes he takes a marked dislike to one particular horse; and is said by the good folks to transfer in that case, the oats of the devoted beast, to the manger of another favourite steed, which of course thrives well, whilst the other is reduced to skin and bone. In this last respect your correspondent was uncommonly unfortunate for several years, in having *a pair* who had both incurred the fiend's displeasure, and were at last reduced so low, that he might have lost them, had not a suspicion arisen, that the coachman, not the horses, was the object of Damavoy's indignation, and the result showed the truth of the suspicion; as on turning him away, the goblin went with him, and the cattle regained their oats and flesh.

A decent elderly woman, who serves the house with milk, laid long the bad quality of that neceſsary fluid likewise to the pranks of Damavoy, when it happened to be below par; who ſhe ſaid sometimes amused himself with drinking milk, and putting water into the pail in its place. However, having found a more fortunate milk woman, whose cow house was not haunted by Damavoy, we are now well served, and hear no more of his frolicks.

The Ruſsian peasants, especially those who keep hackney horses in town, and are of course more immediately under our observation, suppose that Damavoy is particularly fond of a long clotted mane, which never has felt the teeth of a comb; and as they stand particularly in awe of that fiend, they let them grow to an enormous length, which has a strange appearance, especially to travellers. However I think of late years I see much fewer of these dedicated animals than formerly. Thus you see, Sir, that the most northern of the whole goblin groupe, and who has resisted the thunder of the Greek Vatican, which drove all the Sclavonian deities into the Black Sea, (as the nearest, whilst fulminating at Kiove,) only haunts the stables and cow houses of the Ruſsians; and never like your ill mannered Scotch *Brown Coat*, (for I beg to correct the corrupt reading of *Browny*,) defiles the dwelling house with his presence. Justice however, obliges me to acknowledge, that what the Caledonian goblin has lost in manners by emigration, he has gained in other good qualities, which he certainly did not carry from Denmark or Norway with him; as no

traces of them remain with the rest of the family. Here again I speak from as respectable authorities in Scotland, as in Ruſsia, as I received the following information, not only from my dry nurse, but likewise from the grave matrons who served the paternal mansion with salt and sand.

They all declared with one accord, that Browny had been known to ride, like a devil as he is, (though a good natured one,) for the *bowdie* or midwife, when a favourite cottager was in labour; and on another occasion, to aſsist a favourite servant girl in doing her work in the night, except her indelicate gratitude led her to offer him food as a recompence for his labour, when he was sure to leave the imprudent laſs to her own exertion, who was then well off if ſhe did not find her broom stuck up the chimney, and a sprinkling of soot on her well waſhed floors.

I have now, Mr Editor, traced the family of our Ruſsian Damavoy, to all the northern nations within the range of my research, according to promise, (a service he by no means merits at my hand, on the score of milk and oats, as hinted above,) so that if any of your numerous readers, choose to follow the polar breed through the different colonies from the north, settled in the other parts of Europe, it may not only serve to satisfy curiosity, but as a peace offering for the repose of their stables, providing these imps still preserve in foreign emigration, their old equestrian taste.

And that this diſsertation may tend to the repose of mine, is the hearty wiſh of ARCTICUS.

ACCOUNT OF THE PLASTER
Called Chinam in India.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

The plaster with which the walls of house Madras in the East Indies are covered in the [illegible], is the admiration of all who have seen it, being in whiteneſs and luſtre no way inferior to marble. A pleaſant lady, hearing that ſugar, eggs, milk, and butter entered into its compoſition, ſaid they muſt mean pudding and not plaſter.

The incloſed receipt is tranſmitted from baron Reichel at that ſettlement. I wiſh it to be preſerved in your valuable collection of economical tracts, as an object that cannot fail to attract the attention, and excite the imitation of our modern builders. The materials may all be had at home; for I perſuade myſelf, that good lime-ſtone, carefully burnt, will anſwer the purpoſe of this plaſter every bit as well as burnt cockle ſhells, which may alſo be eaſily had from many parts of this kingdom. This you may depend upon, that nothing can exceed the beauty and durability of this plaſter.

It would be eſpecially uſeful in the country, and probably ſupersede the uſe of paper hangings there, where paper hangings are apt to ſpoil unleſs fires are continually kept up during the winter, when moſt people leave their country ſeats, and repair to our capital or provincial towns. But above all, I

should think it would answer well in our colleges and other public halls.

And now, Sir, the return I request from the public for this inestimable communication is, that those persons who shall be inclined to make the experiment of using it, would have the goodness to communicate the result thereof to you, that the public may by this means be informed of its failure or success. For should it chance happily to succeed in a few first experiments, I doubt not of its being soon introduced into general use. I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

March 22. 1793. ÆDIFICATOR.

The Composition and Preparation of CHINAM, *or* PLASTER *of* LIME, *at* MADRAS.

1. The quick lime made use of, is of burnt cockle shells which were previously well washed, so as to cleanse them of all the salt and slime they might be covered with.

2. An equal quantity of this lime and pure sand is mixed together, and formed into a heap; in the middle of which a sufficient quantity of water is thrown, so as to create a gentle degree of ebullition, and the heap is left in that state twelve or fourteen days.

3. The heap after this time is well stirred about, and is then fit for mortar, by being well beat with pestles in stone grooves made for that purpose.

4. This mortar, in almost a dry state, is carried to the place where the plastering is to be made. Previously to the laying on the first coat, the wall

or floor is well swept, and bathed with jogree water, (in the proportion of one pound of jogree to a gallon of water,) the mortar is then made sufficiently liquid with jogree water to be laid half an inch thick upon the brick work; it is smoothed and modelled agreeably to the form required, first with a common trowel, and then with a wooden one, rubbing and moistening continually with jogree water, till it becomes perfectly hard.

5. This coat is left to dry at least ten or twelve days.

6. A second mortar is prepared for a second coat in the following manner. Two-thirds of the pure shell lime, well sifted, is mixed with a third of pure sand, and this is ground upon a stone, with as much water as will make it of the consistence of paste; it is then laid by in some large earthen vessel.

7. A quantity of pure shell lime, without sand, is also ground exceedingly fine upon a stone, and again deposited in separate large earthen vessels, overflowed with clean water.

8. Thus having every thing prepared, the day the fine plastering is to be made, the vessels which contain the ground lime without sand are well stirred, and a few eggs, sour milk, and a pound of melted butter is thrown in, and well mixed with it; the consistence of this mortar is rather liquid.

9. Over the first coat of plastering, the second coat is given, with the ground lime and sand; and as soon as this is laid on smooth and well rubbed

with the wooden trowel, the third coat, with the ground pure lime, is immediately applied, not thicker than the eighth of an inch. It is also rubbed lightly with a wooden trowel, until it begins to refuse that kind of friction; the iron trowel, or polisher, is then used; and in the handling of this, as well as in the manner of giving it the fine and even polish, lies, as I said before, all the *delicatesse* of the art.

Should you wish to colour the plastering, the desired colour, red, yellow, or black, must be ground separately, and mixed with the composition of the third coat.

The faces of the wall or floors thus plastered, must be wiped dry for several days with a very clean cloth; and when the moisture appears pretty near evaporated, they must be rubbed for two or three days with the palm of the hand quite clean and dry.

This is what I know of the composition of our plaster at Madras, in the employing of which, (when thus prepared,) lies all the art, in order to give that fine polish which we observe.

ON THE GENERATION OF INSECTS.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

SAUNTERING a few summers ago through the fields, I came to a small piece of stagnating water, where, having little else to do, I stood gazing a while at the brightness of the reflected sun. During this time I observed a black beetle lying dead on the sur-

face of the pool, and a little after discovered two others entering the water, and seeming to struggle against an element that was not their own. I could not see them without feeling compaſsion; I therefore hastened to the place were they were, and brought them to land, placing them at about a foot's distance from the water. They both however turned about, and entered the water a second time. This conduct of theirs I ascribed to their ignorance, and brought them back. But when I saw them entering the water a third time, I began to imagine that there was some meaning in what they did. I resolved now to wait some time, to see what was to be the iſsue. From the beetle which I saw first, I observed something like a gut hanging out. I examined it more attentively, and perceived motion in it. At last it dropped from the beetle into the water, and turned out to be one of those creatures which in this part of the country we call hair eels. My compaſsion now had lost its influence; it had to contend with a much more powerful antagonist, my curiosity. I opened the other two beetles, and in the one found two, and in the other three of these eels. It was then about the 20th of June; and till about the 10th of July I made it my buſineſs to collect a number of these beetles, which I either found swimming in the water or entering upon it. All of them I put in glaſses with some water, and from all of them had two or more of these hair eels. These eels I next intended to preserve alive in the glaſses, to know whether they were the offspring of the beetle, or of some other creature, which had

laid their *ova* in that insect. But this experiment did not succeed. My glasses were stolen as they stood in a wood, and since, I have never had an opportunity to pursue these inquiries. The beetle always died in the water. Some of these circumstances I mentioned to Mr Smellie last winter, and he told me that the like discovery had been made by some gentleman in the botanical garden. As neither that gentleman, however, nor Mr Smellie, so far as I know, have published any thing like these facts, I could wish them to be more generally known to naturallists. I hope therefore that you will admit the above into your useful miscellany first opportunity, and oblige a sincere friend and well wisher to your undertaking.

Perthshire. A. Z *.

Anecdotes of Hunting, extracted from Mr Campbell's Travels in North America, now in the Press.

Method of killing Brants, a kind of Water Fowl, on the River Merimashee.

On any point of land between two creeks, bays, or (which is best,) between two rivers, the sportsman slips off a tree a twig, or small branch, the small end of which he fixes in the sand, quite close to the water edge, to the height of the bird he means to represent; near to it, he fixes two or three other sticks to

* This paper, with many others, has been much longer delayed than the Editor intended.

the height of the body; round these sticks he wraps some sea weed, so as to resemble as much as possible the wings and tail of the bird; and the upper end of the stick, the neck and head, I mean that which formerly adhered to the tree; so that to view it at a distance it will very much resemble a bird. He sometimes makes two or three of these decoys close to each other, which being seen by the birds at a distance as they fly along, entice them to come on, and take a sweep around, supposing them to be some of their fellows. At a proper distance he makes a pit in the sand, and around it places some shrubbery, or small bunches of the crops of trees, to cover himself when he sits, that he may not be seen by them. This is always done on the windward side of the point, which, for the most part, sea fowls are fondest of frequenting. A flock of them in passing by, suppose these objects to be real birds, and come close up to them; on which the sportsman fires and if he happens to kill one or two, he places them in the water, with a sharp pointed stick, one end of which is fixed in the sand, the other under the chops of the bird, which holds up his head as if alive, and the motion of the surge keeps him heaving up and down, and from side to side; so that now it is next to impossible to discover the deception.

The next flight that comes, alight close by this one, on which he readily fires sitting; and every one he kills, he places close by the other, in the same manner with the first. This he continues to do, till, in a few hours, he may have the full loading of

his canoe, or as many as he chooses to carry home. The birds are so numerous in these bays, and flocks of them so frequently passing from one point to another, that scarcely would there be an end to this diversion, at which, indeed, the Indians are most expert.

Mode of hunting Moose Deer.

The manner of hunting the moose deer in the the rutting season, is as follows: the moose at night is fond of feeding on a sort of grass that grows at the bottom or sides of ponds or lakes.

The sportsman ranges from pond to pond, and lake to lake, until he finds by their track that which the moose frequents; he then places himself in a proper situation on the side of that pond or lake. He is provided with a slip of birch bark, about a span broad, which he rolls up in the form of a funnel; and when the proper time of night comes, putting the small end of it to his mouth, he blows through it, and gives the call peculiar to this animal. If the moose is within hearing, he answers the call, and comes rushing through the wood with such rapidity and noise, that he is heard at a considerable distance; all the young saplings, branches, or bushes, giving way to his great strength in his career. If he is any way doubtful, he stops and listens; the sportsman then calls and calls again through his birch funnel; and if the moose bull does not know the sound, though within gun shot, he comes no farther. The huntsman finding this, has recourse to another deception. With the same instrument he blows in the water, and makes it bubble up, so as to resemble the wa-

ter bubbling by the breath of an animal feeding in it; then putting his finger in the small end of the funnel, he dips it into the water, and raises the full of it; then removing his finger, he pours it back again in a small stream; thus making a noise as if a cow moose was pissing. When the bull hears this, he runs with such fury and force, that the sportsman, for fear of being trodden down, is often obliged to step to a side, till he dash into the water, where he becomes more visible by its reflection; and having now full sight and time to take his aim, he fires and kills him on the spot.

In winter they hunt them with dogs, when the crust of the snow is so hard as to hold up the dogs, while the weight of the moose sinks him to the bottom. When closely pursued, and no possibility of escaping, he runs about in a circle until he beat down the snow and make a path, within which he keeps to beat off the dogs, and often kills some of those that happen to come within this circle and his reach. His horns are of an enormous length and thickness at the root. I have seen one horn of a moose deer, which I am convinced would weigh from sixteen to twenty pounds.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

The noblest effort of the human mind is to endure with patience, and conceal with decency, the daily tortures of gradual death.

The most conspicuous feature of genius, is a perseverance in the pursuits of the object to which a man's education is devoted.

Verses on Education, addressed to a Young Nobleman.

[*By the late Dr Spens, late minister of the Wemyss, afterwards Professor of Divinity at St Andrews, and Translator of Plato's Republic, A.D.*1758, *never before published.*]

Tell me, ye muses! in your tuneful strains,
What seeds of virtue or of science spring
In gen'rous minds; and what the goodly fruits,
Where patient culture, and propitious skies,
Fail not to nourish what the bounteous hand
Of nature lib'ral sows? 'Tis —— —— claims
My rural song; —— —— whom ev'ry eye
Delighted views, with gentlest manners grac'd,
And brightest genius, ardent in pursuit
Of fame and honour; while each heav'nly muse,
With studious love, and with a mother's joy,
Prepares their choicest garland to adorn
His honour'd brow; nor me amid their haunts
Presumptuous deem, whilst fond I crave to bear,
With zealous hands, some freshest flow'rs, their gift
And blooming present to their darling youth.
Say, what avails illustrious birth; and what
All outward wealth and honours; if the gifts
Of nature and of genius be bestow'd
With sparing hand? Or if some dire disease
Prey on these gen'rous seeds; or naughty sore
Impair their vigour; or th' assiduous hand
Of painful culture, turning all to thrift,
Shall be with-held? Campania's fertile vales
Lie choak'd with weeds beneath the baleful reign
Of sloth and luxury; while rugged rocks
And deserts smile on industry's approach.
Thrice blest of heav'n they who the gen'rous seeds
Of virtue and of science from the hand
Of nature have receiv'd in lib'ral store!
On whom th' Almighty Maker hath impress'd
His image brightest! of a genius form'd
With quickness to perceive, to love, and act,
Whate'er is best and comliest: and on whom
Fortune, indulgent, smiles, and culture joins
Her wonder-working art to perfect all:
But seldom is this triple boon observ'd
To meet in one. For oft where nature boasts
A happy genius, it is left to mourn

The want of culture, and propitious fate.
And oft indulgent fortune, and the toil
Of painful labour, struggle but in vain,
Whilst nature, with a sparing hand, appears
To yield her lovely treasures. Still in all
Nature is chief; and of all goodly works
Hers are the comliest; but thro' sharp'ning toil,
Thro' gen'rous struggles lies man's destin'd road
To happiness, whilst nature's faithful voice
Calls him to virtue as his final good.
Still with our years up-shoots a sep'rate set
Of froward passions. When with gladsome foot
The tender child stamps the firm earth, and forms
Artic'late sounds with pretty prattling tongue;
How many a fervent bus'ness still engage
His happy faculties, whilst ev'ry hour
The passion varies, with incessant change!
From grievous tutorage escap'd, the boy
Springs to his sport as various fancy points,
Pliant to vice, impatient of reproof,
Careless, inconstant, overbearing, loud.
The idle froward youth contemns th' advice
Of sober age; and from its guardian eye
Remov'd, now triumphs in his own free range.
Now by love-haunted streams and groves he wastes
In idle raptures all his blooming years;
Or gives the first beginnings of his strength
To what has slain the mightiest, and brought down
Innumerable mourners to the dust.
The prime of manhood, on a worthier plan
Studies to act. Fair honour now exalts
His gen'rous views; and now for virtuous fame
His bosom burns. For these he braves the flood;
He braves the hostile field; for these he dares
In full assembl'd senates to oppose
Corruption's num'rous sons, and plead the cause
Of liberty, tho' single; whilst the love
Of dearest country, and th' immense desire
Of fame still urges on to mightiest deeds.
Old age by many a weight is sore oppress'd.
Now beauty's bloom is wither'd; to the ground
Strength bends with tott'ring step; the spirits sink,
And fertile fancy fails; a just concern
Degen'rates to anxiety; the air
Of chearfulness and ease is marr'd by keen
Corrosive cares; innumerable fears
Beset their path; whilst, like a treach'rous friend,
Pleasure forsakes their footsteps. Virtue, alone,
Such pow'r is giv'n her by the Mighty God,
With her delightful song charms ev'ry woe.

Joy to the parents who their darling son
Thro' childish years have happily up-rear'd!
Taught him a pleas'd obedience; set to work
A worthy emulation; and betimes
Form'd virtuous habits in his pliant soul!
Them a rich harvest of rewarding joy
Awaits! Whilst painful culture still bestows
Her close attendance on his precious hours,
What pity game or idleness devour
His op'ning bloom, when nature, now in prime,
Shoots her full vigour thro' his flow'ring spring!
Now hist'ry to his op'ning mind recounts
The deeds of heroes. Now in her retreats
Divine philosophy reveals the laws
That rule this graceful universe, and points,
O man! thy destin'd happiness;—how blest
If with unerring constancy pursu'd!
How many a scene in science and fair art
Before him lie to bless his hours, and save
From vice and folly his unguarded heart!
Let travel next, and foreign courts improve
His home-bred taste. Whate'er deserves regard
Abroad, of laws, of learning, commerce, arts,
Genius and manners, with what else may fit
For public station, or adorn the scenes
Of private life, and bless each smiling hour,
Let his attentive eye and ear observe.
Ye gen'rous youths who tread th' inchanted ground
Of foreign cities, and each polish'd court
Visit in search of wisdom, when the song
Of syrens warbles in your ear, O guard
Your easy heart! nor to your country's voice,
Your friends impatient wishes, long defer
Your glad return. The best of human life
First passes off; disease and old age
Succeed; and death, [illegible] your fondest schemes,
Lays his arrest. Oh do [illegible]n. devote
Your prime of days to gallantry; to game
Mad frolic; or whate'er may make you [illegible]art
Mourn at the last. But on your happy hours
May peaceful conscience, and celestial hope,
Sweet nourishers of age, for ever smile!
Does harmony of tuneful sound awake
A sense of sweetest melody? In forms,
And colours of external things, perceives
The mind an image of thy lovely form?
Mysterious beauty! In the poet's song
Of love disastrous; in the patriot's speech,
By liberty inspir'd, and injur'd laws,

Feel we emotions tender or sublime?
Do characters e'er charm us? Glows our heart
With gen'rous friendship? Feel we e'er the pant
For virtue and perfection? Onward still
Where beauty's footsteps lead us; nor remit
The rapt'rous search, till uncreated good
And sov'reign beauty fill the raviſh'd soul.
From charm to charm; from beauty onward still
To higher beauty, raptur'd taste pursues
Her heav'nward path, still gen'rously intent
On what is best and highest, upward led
By nature, her instructress, tho' unseen,
And guided by her voice! From reg'lar forms,
And symmetries of simplest kind, to those
Of architecture and the finer arts;
To nature's lovely landscapes; and from these
To higher nature, the celestial orbs,
Their perfect orders, their amazing laws
Of beauty and simplicity divine.
In poliſh'd cities, and well govern'd states
She chief delights, where ſhines the godlike train
Of patriots and of heroes, where the voice
Of orators and poets draws her ear
Enraptur'd; and the loveliest forms of just
And equal policies attract her love.
Full oft the gentlest forms of wedded love,
And kindred charities her heart allure
To mildest raptures; now for native land,
Now for mankind, and now for virtue pants
Her swelling bosom, and now onward bears
To Sov'reign Good. These are her purer loves.
This, the mysterious beauty taste pursues,
Where native genius, and auspicious art,
Rear to perfection man's high destin'd pow'rs.

A Fable.

This attempt to turn into rhyme, with simplicity, a well known fable, is humbly offered to the Editor of the Bee by C. J.

A cock employ'd in quest of food,
A sparkling diamond spied;
"How glad a jew'ler would have been,
At such a sight!" he cried.

"His fortune made!—The giddy joy
Perhaps had turn'd his brain.
For me were gems with barley mix'd,
I ſhould prefer the grain."

Biographical Catalogue of Eminent Scottish Artists.

For the Bee.

George Jamesone of Aberdeen, painter.

The present earl of Orford was furnished by Mr Carnegy, town clerk of Aberdeen, with several particulars relating to Jamesone, from whom Mr Carnegy is descended, and these are inserted in Walpole's Lives of British Painters.

I might, therefore, dismiss this article without further notice, were it not to make some remarks upon Jamesone's manner of painting; and to enumerate a few of his most capital performances.

Jamesone's manner of painting resembled more that of his master, Sir Peter Paul Rubens, than any other of his disciples, or fellow scholars at Antwerp.

He painted in the broad thin transparent manner; and when he was hurried, he charged with varnish, both for expedition and mellowness of colour. He had drawn much from academy figures, and fine statues, and models, when he was a student in Italy and Antwerp; and his lines declare every where his masterly proficiency. I have heard of some bozzos of his in Italy, and some drawings and pictures at Antwerp, but from no immediate, or descriptive authority. He was introduced at London by the laird of Glenorchy, and lord Marischal, his patron; but finding Paul Van Somer, Cornelius Jansen, and afterwards Vandyke, in possession of the vogue, he never could establish himself in the metropolis. So, partly at Balloch castle, now Taymouth, at lord Mar's and Marischal's, and his other illustrious protectors, he passed most

of his time in the the country, painting family portraits, most of which were only heads or kit-kats.

Of his full lengths, with finished back grounds, there are but few to be met with, even in the collections of the most illustrious families.

Lord Buchan has one very beautiful and well preserved, of his great grand uncle, who was blown up at Dunglass castle.

Stuart of Grandtully has one of Lindesay lord Spinzie, of the family of Craufurd, very fine and spirited; and there are a few others. All of them may be hung in apartments with those of Vandyke; with exception (perhaps) to the matchless pictures of the Holland family in the collection of lord Breadalbane, and a few in that of the empress of Russia, (once, to the disgrace of England,) in the Orford collection at Houghton hall in the county of Norfolk.

His grandfather by the mother was David Anderson, known and spoken of to this day at Aberdeen, by the name of *Davie doe aw things;* because he was a man of singular ability in mechanical invention.

He it was who first contrived machines for lifting and conveying large blocks of stone for the pier at Aberdeen, and other similar works, in the then low state of the arts in the remote parts of Scotland; and it would be a research not unworthy of an intelligent citizen of Aberdeenshire who had leisure, to hand down the authenticated particulars of this *village Archimedes* to posterity.

It is a singular circumstance, *and worthy of deep reflection,* that all the descendants of *Davie doe aw things,* have been ingenious and remarkable. I have traced them to a great extent without disappointment.

From him are sprung *the Gregories*, whom even the splendor of the immortal inventor of the catoptric telescope has not been able to prevent from shining in the broad day of this enlightened hemisphere! Nor am I slow to acknowledge, that one noble and luminous demonstration of his *singularly* learned descendant, and indeed the whole structure of his *original book*, are in point, with respect to conjectures on which I forbear to enlarge. The world is too young for any thing but handling it like children, to know it better; nor have we yet discovered catoptric telescopes for looking into the connection between spirit and matter.

George Jamesone amused himself with painting landscapes, and there are some of them extant. Of his architectural pictures there is one in the king's university at Aberdeen, which is very curious, as not only representing that fine building before it was innovated, but the profeſsors and students in their dreſses. These are particulars chiefly interesting to Scotsmen, but why ſhould I forbear mentioning them in the Bee, and in my dear Scotland.

Will foreigners think the worse of us that we love our country?

Literary Olla. No. v.

For the Bee.

On the form and stile of modern epistolary correspondence.

It is something to mark the very form and preſsure of the age we live in; but it is more worthy of ambition to lay a foundation for promoting that which may give a better.

Every person of delicate and refined sentiment, must regret the slaviſh and ridiculous expletives with which modern letters are encumbered and concluded; and must

perceive in them a preposterous custom continued, after the state of society to which they owed their origin has given place to another, connected with an improved condition of government, and manners.

To speak or write insincerely, or treat another with contemptuous fanfaronade, is even commonly denoted by the ordinary conclusion of our familiar epistles. "*Au pied du lettre,*" is an expreſsion tantamount to this foolery and insult; and yet we continue to be *the most humble and most devoted servants* of all our correspondents without distinction.

This is such an outrage upon common sense, that it ought to be universally extirpated without mercy. "What is it, (said a Turkiſh lady to lady Mary Wortly Montague,) that wives, and mistreſses in England reserve for their huſbands and lovers, when they give, without bluſhing, the use of their lovely hands and lips to every common acquaintance!" The same most natural sentiment applies to our indiscriminate use of My Dear, My Dear Lord, and Sir, and all our *obedient and devoted humble servants;* together with that abominable prophanation of sacred friendſhip in our *dear and sincere friends;* and our expectations to have a dozen of *friends* invited *by chance* at a coffeehouse or in the streets, to dine or to sup with us!

To parody the famous speech of old Noll to the rump parliament;—it is high time for us to put an end to their standing in these places, which they have rendered ridiculous by the want of common sense, and injurious to society by the destruction of significant expreſsions of real love and friendſhip. They have no more meaning in them than paper and pack thread.

Henry Home of Kaims, the harbinger of a better age in Scotland, and *who made himself to be felt all Europe*

over, was of this opinion, as will appear from the following letter to a peer of Scotland.

Edinburgh, Feb. 8. 1781.

"This morning, when I was in bed, your servant got your paper addreſsed to me for the Philosophical Society, and I have read with much pleasure your ſhort and pithy letter to myſelf, in your familiar ſtile, without any faſhionable compliments.

"Instead of loading every letter, good, bad, or indifferent, with a multitude of superlatives, and unmeaning *galimatias*, I wiſh you would *ſeriously* set on foot a reformation in this buſineſs; first by setting the absurdity, like Perkin Warbeck, to turn the spit before you degrade it with formality; and then, that you would attempt to restore the noble simplicity that distinguiſhed the correspondence among the ancient Greeks and Romans.

"Taking it for granted that this will be *in reality* agreeable to your taste, as well as to mine, I return your tennis ball, by venturing to subscribe myself, simply,

HENRY HOME."

I ſhall conclude with a public letter of the accompliſhed earl of Orford, so much better known, all over the world, by the name of Horace Walpole.

Without comment, it approaches very nearly to the plan proposed, and it was addreſsed to the same person with that of the former.

I was honoured yesterday with your card, notifying to me the additional honour of my being elected an Honorary Member of the Society of the Antiquaries of Scotland; a grace, my lord, that I receive with the respect and gratitude due to so valuable a distinction; and for which I must beg

leave, through your favour, to offer my most sincere thanks to that learned and respectable Society. My very particular thanks are still more due to your lordship, who, in remembrance of ancient partiality, have been pleased, at the hazard of your own judgement, to favour an old correspondent, who can only now receive, and not bestow benefit with respect to the society that has adopted him.

"In my best days I never could pretend to more than having flitted over some flowers of knowledge. Now, worn out, and near the end of my course, I can only be a broken monument, to prove that the Society of the Antiquaries of Scotland are zealous to preserve even the least valuable remains of a former age, and to recompense all who have contributed their mite towards illustrating our common island.

Berkeley Square,
Feb. 10. 1781.

There is a modesty, simplicity, and beauty, in this letter, that requires no commentator.

Quod verum atque decens curo et rogo, et omnis in hoc sum. Hor.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As I see a laudable and most desirable disposition in the readers of your excellent Miscellany to patronise the study of nature, I have sent you some useful directions for preserving the objects of natural history, which I hope may enable our young men, who go abroad on various errands, to amuse themselves, and enrich their country and science, by putting them in practice. I am, Sir, your constant reader, D. E.

Directions for collecting and preserving natural curiosities.

Quadrupeds.

Care ſhould be had that they are quite freſh: the larger ones may be ſkinned, by making one long opening on the breaſt, and drawing out the body, as in fleaing a rabbit; leaving the head, tail, feet, and claws, as perfect as poſſible; ſtrew over the inside of the ſkin with equal parts of pepper and allum mixed; and taking out the tongue and eyes, fill the mouth and eye holes with the ſame; as alſo the inside of the ſkull, firſt drawing out the brains through the hole at the under part of the head, where it was ſeparated from the neck: the ſkin may then either be ſtuffed with ſome ſoft material, as moſs, cotton, or the like, to a proper ſize, and ſewed up again; or it may be dried without ſtuffing, in the open air; and if the fur itſelf be well wetted with ſome corroſive ſublimate, diſſolved in water, in proportion of half an ounce, or more, to a quart, it will ſecure it from moths, *&c.*; or if this water be uſed to the inſide inſtead of the allum and pepper, it will do as well; eſpecially if the ſkins are put into a very ſlack oven to dry them, which, if convenient, is to be preferred to the open air for many reaſons.

Birds.

Theſe, if large, may be ſkinned as large quadrupeds; but more care ſhould be had that the feathers be not ſoiled with blood or dirt; the inſide of the ſkin may be powdered with the allum and pepper, to which if an eighth of camphor be added, the better; ſtuff out the neck to its uſual ſize; and beginning to ſew up at the breaſt, fill the ſkin to a proper bulk, as you go on, and finiſh at the vent; the ſtuffing may be moſs, cotton, oakum, tow, or any cheap ſoft ſubſtance: you ſhould alſo empty the whole ſkull through the roof of the mouth; which may be done

by breaking down the palate, and scooping out the contents, to be filled again with the above mixture and cotton.—Birds, both large and small, may be also done by this simple method.—Make an hole just large enough to take out the bowels, without soiling the feathers; fill the cavity half full with a mixture of equal parts of allum, pepper, and common salt, with or without an eighth of camphor; fill up the rest of the cavity with cotton, *&c.* and sew up the incision; stuff the throat and neck full of the same with a skewer, and breaking an hole through the palate, quite to the brain, thrust in as much of the mixture as you can; fill the mouth full of the same, and tie the bill together with a thread; then hang the bird in a cellar, first by the bill, and then the legs, changing the position every day, for a week or ten days; after which, bring it into a dry place, and especially let it be dry before packing up, lest in putting it among other things, the moisture should spoil them. These may be laid at full length, as they will take up the less room; and each is to be wrapped in soft paper, laying the feathers very smooth; they may be packed in saw dust or chaff, with a little cheap spice here and there among it. Another way for small birds is this: Get a wooden cask, with a large bung hole at one end; keep this ready by you, more than half full of any cheap spirit, having a little sugar or allum dissolved in it; then wrap each bird smoothly in a linen rag, and tie it gently round with a thread, putting it into the cask; let the bung fit it tight, to prevent the spirit evaporating, and take care to supply, from time to time, what the birds soak up. This cask need not be confined to small birds alone, but many other things may be put in among them promiscuously; such as small quadrupeds, fish, snakes, lizards, and other reptiles, and beetles; (though these last are better preserved by put-

ting them into boiling water, which kills them in less than half a minute; after which they are to be exposed to the air to dry, when they may be packed in cotton with safety.) Whatever is put into the barrel, ought to be wrapped in a bit of rag, and tied or pinned together, as it prevents one subject entangling with another; the old spirit should occasionally be poured off, and fresh put on; and whatever deficiency remains within, is to be supplied with cotton, to prevent the articles injuring each other in the voyage; and to be filled to the top with more spirit; and if, after the bung is tight, it is waxed or pitched over, it will still be better.

Fishes, &c.

Besides the above, there are many things worthy the naturalist's attention; and first, shells of all kinds, found on various coasts. Of these, such are to be preferred, as have the fish alive in them. To separate the fish from the bivalves, as oysters, scollops, *&c.* is easy and obvious; the only caution is, not to part the shells, but leave the hinge which unites them unbroken, as the shells, when disunited, lose much of their value. To get out the fish from the single spiral shells, as snails, *&c.* put them into boiling water, and when cool enough to be taken out by the fingers, you may pick them out whole, with a pointed instrument, be the turns of the shell ever so minute. Crustaceous animals, as crabs, may be freed from as much of their inside, as may be without disfigurement, and dried; if, to do this, any of their limbs are obliged to be separated, such parts are to be carefully wrapped up together, in the same paper. Echins, or sea eggs, having very tender spines, must be treated with great nicety; let the bony mouth be quite taken off, and the inside of the shell emptied as much as may be; then wash it in fresh water, and let it dry of itself; be careful to keep each mouth with its respective

ſhell, and to pack in the softest cotton; though if the sea eggs are wrapped up whole in a rag, and put into the spirits as above said, it will be a good way. Star fiſh of all kinds will dry of themselves, if extended on a board in the air. Corals, madrepores, sea fans, and weeds, *&c.* need no more than waſhing in freſh water, (as ſhould every thing that comes out of the sea,) and packing in soft materials.

Insects,

In general, may be taken by the naked hand; except such as are found in still waters and lakes, which are to be caught by a small bag net at the end of a light pole. —Butterflies, ranging at large, are to be caught in a small kind of bat fowling net, made of fine green gauze, a yard or more in length, and three quarters broad; a person a little used to this net, will be able to catch a great many in a ſhort time, any fine day, by folding the sides together, and inclosing the fly between. When a fly is caught, the net is to be laid on the knee, or the ground, and the insect squeezed, so as to bruise that part of the body where the wings are set on, (not the lower parts,) and the fly will be immediately dead or disabled, then you are to thurst a pin, of a suitable size, between the wings, where you squeezed it; then stick it tight in your pocket box, which may be lined at top and bottom with cork, that the pins may go in the easier. You must, in this case, pin them to the box without squeezing, till you get home, when a pin is to be put through the usual place; and putting it on a card, puſh the pin so far into the card, that it may appear a quarter of an inch through; hold the point to the flame of a candle, till the creature be dead, which it will be in leſs than a minute; then stick the pin tight into a board, or rather cork, and extend the wings on each side, till on a level with the head; keep them, thus, by a slip of card pin-

ned lightly on each wing, for a week or more, till dry, when they may be stuck into the store box; which box must ſhut very close, and camphor kept in it, to prevent the attacks of vermin. Insects for the most part, or beetles, may be killed, by sticking them on the edge of a board, and holding at such a distance from the fire, as to kill them without scorching; these need not be expanded at all, but only to have a pin run through them, and committed to the store box. Take care to send such butterflies only as are perfect; not having their wings torn, or the powder rubbed off; to prevent which, let them be handled with the fingers as little as poſsible; and when the box is sent off, paste it up close with paper; and if the paste has twenty grains of corrosive sublimate to each point, diſsolved in it, it will prevent any insects eating through the paper.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE Editor of this Miscellany is now so deeply in arrears to his numerous and respectable correspondents, that no other method seems to be practicable for him to avail himself of their obliging favours, without greatly augmenting the bounds of his Miscellany, but that of giving a concise abridgement of the valuable communications they have been so obliging as to favour him with. This he already began in the first volume of this Work, under the title of INDEX INDICATORIUS; but from the difficulties he then met with in the printing line, he was obliged to desist from that plan; and from various considerations, with which he will not trouble the public, has been prevented, till the present time, from resuming it. He will be very happy if he can so conduct this department as not to give offence to his correspondents, for whose favours he bears the highest respect.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

A CORRESPONDENT who signs *Matthew Bramble*, has taken the trouble of transcribing several letters from the expedition of Humphry Clinker, which he wiſhes to see inserted in the Bee. But however

excellent these may be, that work is too universally known to admit of extracts from it with any degree of propriety.

A *Good Fellow* is so kind as to communicate a dream by a taylor, which is intended to ridicule the often reprehended practice of *cabbaging*. But the humour is not such as would appear new, or very interesting to most of the readers of the Bee.

A. M. M. has favoured the Editor with some excellent observations on *affectation*, which the narrow limits of this work prevent him from inserting entire. He observes, that the sacred Scriptures inform us, "That the heart of man is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked;" while we are at the same time informed by the same authority, "that an universal and unerring standard of right and wrong is implanted in our breasts." These two propensities naturally counteracting one another, produce a desire to disguise what our own hearts may condemn as wrong, and to make it appear as if our actions proceeded from the best motives. "Thus, (says he,) kings and governors are led to hide from the view of their subjects the many unjust and oppressive acts which they may have committed, by splendid acts of generosity, and patronising popular undertakings, some of which may be excellent in their nature, but to which they have no inclination otherwise than with a view to blind the eyes of the people, and to gain popularity; and the people are often so weak as to be prevailed on, by humouring their own favourite vices, to overlook the most enormous crimes of their princes. Thus the Roman emperors were applauded by their subjects, whom they entertained with the inhuman shows of fighting gladiators, perhaps the very day after they had slaughtered some of their fellow citizens, and given themselves up to the most savage excesses." He then proceeds to show, that subjects in these respects are often as blameable as their princes, and assume a garb of hyprocrisy to conceal the basest crimes; and concludes with advising his readers to study with attention the divine oracles of truth, and to endeavour to become in reality what they would wish to appear to others; and thus they will effectually insure a lasting respect from others, and happiness to themselves. "Thus, (says he,) shall we go on our way rejoicing, and at last shine like the stars of the firmament, with inconceivable splendour and unclouded majesty."

Several communications have been received, which will be acknowledged more particularly in our next.

To be continued.

*** The word *jegree*, in the account of the Chinam, p. 128. means a thickened foul juice of the sugar cane.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 1793.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME CELEBRATED AUTHORS.

FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY EMINENCE LATELY DECEASED, TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WHO HAD REQUESTED HIS ADVICE IN REGARD TO THE PROPER MODE OF CONDUCTING HIS STUDIES.

LETTER III.

Continued from p. 97.

I AM glad to find, my dear ———, that you have paid so much attention to the slight hints I gave in my last, respecting the classics, and will be happy if that, or any thing else I can say, shall induce you to bestow a more particular attention to that branch of study than you otherwise might have done. I wish you not, however, to conceive that I am such a blind admirer of the ancients as to recommend them without discrimination. They deserve high applause when their merits are duly appreciated; but those who bestow exaggerated praises u-

pon them, only hurt the cause they intended to serve.

Clafsical learning, in the present state of things, I consider not to be of great utility, in as far as regards the acquisition of knowledge only, unlefs in respect to the study of the law, and the more easy attainment of a few books in physic. To those who, like you, only wifh to acquire a general knowledge of history, physics, and philosophy, there are so many translations of all the good books in these branches, that a man, without any clafsical knowledge at all, may make nearly as great proficiency in them, as if he were ever so learned in the languages. But when you consider what the French call belles lettres, and objects of taste in composition, the case is quite different; and the benefits to be derived from clafsical learning, in this point of view, are very great; for there is to be found in the compositions of many of the ancients, a chasteneſs of ftile, a justneſs of arrangement, a happy selection of words, and an elegance in the whole art of composition, that we but very seldom find in modern performances. By reading and attending to these, a taste for a similar chastity in literary composition is gradually acquired, and a habit of propriety in expreſsion is attained, which gives the highest polifh to the man of letters, and the gentleman. For these reasons, however uselefs it may be to the mechanic or the artisan, or even to those who are only emulous of acquiring knowledge in philosophy, I conceive clafsical learning must ever

constitute a very eſsential part of the education of the man of taste and polite acquirements.

In a mere didactic performance, the meaning indeed can be clearly and completely transfused from one language into another by a good translation; but it is quite otherwise with regard to works of taste. No man who never read Homer in the original, can form an adequate idea of the beauties of the Iliad. So much depends upon the nice arrangement of the parts, and the delicate ideas that are conveyed by particular expreſsions, that whenever you derange them in any way, you lose the ineffable beauty which constituted their principal excellence; and instead of an ardent train of ideas, which communicated a warm glow of enthusiastic rapture at every step, you are presented with a dead and lifeleſs carcase, which, from its symmetry and proportions, you can conceive may have been once extremely beautiful, but which now can only be contemplated with a sort of cold indifference. To attempt to put it into another language is as if you were to pull off all the feathers from a bird of the most beautiful plumage, and then stick them into a cork model representing the body of the bird. You may thus have something like the general appearance; but the grace and beauty which were so remarkable in the original, are entirely gone. This is my idea of translations in general; and where there are so many works of taste, of great elegance, as are confeſsedly to be met with in the languages of Greece and Rome, he who has a mind turned for such studies, will find the pains that he is obliged to bestow in the acquisition of

these languages abundantly repaid by the pleasure they will afford.

Even with regard to historical compositions, in which the facts may be attained with precision from translations; yet so much of the pleasure to be derived from reading depends upon the elegance of the composition, that there will be found an infinite difference between the perusal of the original authors, and any translation of them that can be made. For these reasons I advise you to apply at present with great aſsiduity to your claſsical studies: you are now past the initiatory and disagreeable part of them, and a very little perseverance will enable you to read, with great satisfaction, every author in these languages. I beg of you therefore to attend to this. In the works of Thucydides, Xenophon, Plutarch, you will find much useful information, independent of their beauty as objects of taste in literary composition; and though old Herodotus is to be read with some diffidence, (as indeed all the Greek writers are,) with regard to historical precision, yet there is such a charm in the simplicity of his manner, and the harmony of his stile, and you here see the mode of thinking that prevailed among the people at that early period so distinctly pourtrayed, that you will find it a most interesting performance. With regard to the writings of Aristotle, Plato, Demosthenes, and the philosophers, rhetoricians, and poets in general, you will do well to deny yourself the indulgence of dipping into them till you are critically ſkilled in the language, and well acquainted with the manners

of the people, and the history of those times; by that time your taste will be so formed as not to relish the more gaudy tinsel of *some* of their compositions; and your judgement will be so matured, as to be in no danger of being misled by the subtilty of their metaphysical speculations.

You are, yourself, sufficiently acquainted with the Latin authors to render it unnecessary for me to be particular on that head; only I beg of you to be upon your guard against adopting, without great caution, the ideas that are very generally thrown out by English authors concerning the writings of Cicero and Tacitus, whose compositions have been often held up to view as possessing a much greater degree of perfection than I think you will be willing to allow to them, when you shall come to judge maturely for yourself.

But if your taste will be improved by reading classical authors, it has an equal chance of being debased by dipping into French literature. For near a century past, the writers in that language have been strenuous in their efforts at obtaining celebrity in regard to beauty of stile; and these efforts have engendered an infinity of productions, which in a variety of ways have sinned against nature and truth, till they have at last degenerated into an indiscriminate torrent of bombast; every one trying who shall outstrip his neighbour in his unnatural efforts. To contemplate the whole group, appears to me as if I saw a multitude of men before me, who, disdaining to walk upon their legs, as nature intended them, were each emulous of adopting some o-

ther locomotive power, which he conceived would render him the admiration of all around him. Some of these are mounted upon stilts; some, walking upon their hands, turn their heels upwards; but by far the greatest part, having fabricated for themselves a kind of wings, attempt to use them for the purpose of raising themselves to a high degree of elevation, but who, in their unnatural exertions, are perpetually tumbling in the mire, and again attempting to display their wings with ineffectual efforts; while a few, having laid hold of baloons, are lifted above the clouds, where they for a time remain beyond the human ken, till they fall down at last, and like poor Rosier are smashed to pieces. Never was there found in any language such an overflowing of unintelligible jargon, as is to be met with in the French publications of the present day.

Yet among the number of men of genius who have written in the French language, there are some who have written with elegance and taste. Voltaire posseſsed a clear, nervous, and concise stile of language that has seldom been exceeded; and every one knows that in the lively satirical vein, he never perhaps has had an equal; and Rouſseau in strength, propriety, elegance, and pathos, is altogether unrivalled. Voltaire seldom attempts either the pathetic or the sublime; and where he does attempt it, even in his dramatic writings, there is so much more of art than nature in the composition, that the heart is never touched. Rouſseau is every where simple, enchantingly pathetic, and often sublime. His pathos always reaches the heart,

and affects it almost instinctively; and where he is sublime, he rises as if it were without effort, and with him, raises the mind of his reader to a high degree of exaltation. Voltaire amuses the fancy, and exhibits such a superabundance of ludicrous pictures as can scarcely fail to exhilerate the most phlegmatic reader. Rouſseau siezes the heart, and compels the reader to go along with him. The writings of both these authors, however, ſhould be read with great caution. Rouſseau, warm and ardent in his conceptions, expreſses his ideas in too bold and unguarded a manner not to outstrip the comprehension of most readers, so that what, if thoroughly explained, might be understood, appears to be only bold and paradoxical as he has left it. Hence arose those persecutions to which he was subjected, and which, on account of the imprudence of thus throwing out ideas which might tend unneceſsarily to mislead the minds of well intentioned readers, was not entirely unmerited. Voltaire, on the other hand, with his natural levity of disposition, when he meets with an opportunity of turning any object that is generally respected into ridicule, is sure to embrace it; and his talents for that species of composition were such as to enable him, with a single daſh of his pen, to convert the most dignified object in nature into the most ludicrous. No man, whatever his judgement and dispositions may be, is proof against the power of such kind of attacks. His writings, therefore, with all their charms, are in great danger of perverting the judgement, and giving an improper bias to youth-

ful minds. I would except, however, his General History from this censure, which is a masterly performance, and seems to have been written with much more care than we could have expected from such a lively pen. It has produced a total change in the ideas of mankind respecting historical composition, and has introduced a mode of writing history, that is entirely new in Europe. When you are sufficiently acquainted with historical facts respecting modern Europe, you will read this work with great pleasure, for it ought to be rather considered as a memorandum book for arranging the ideas of persons of knowledge, than an introduction to history for those who are uninformed.

RAYNAL has obtained a temporary reputation for writing a history in a very rhetorical stile, which pleased the public at first on account of its novelty. That performance is now found to be erroneous in many particulars; and the public, tired of that kind of flowery writing, are disposed to find many faults with it. Thus it ever happens when an attempt is made to found a reputation on any thing but truth and nature;—the succefs may be brilliant for a time, but the reputation that is thus acquired is of ſhort duration. In any other light than as an amuſing performance I would not recommend this book to your perusal. If you were to ground your notions of trade and commerce on the views he gives of them, you will find that, at a future period of life, you will be obliged to alter them entirely. Indeed I wiſh you to keep clear of this branch of study for some time; for we are yet but groping our way in

it; and have scarcely got a glimpse of light. It is as yet only a maiden science. It is not impofsible that before you have made yourself master of other branches of knowledge, which claim your attention, some person may step forward, and elucidate it more clearly than has yet been done; all I wifh you to do at present, is to avoid forming decided notions on this subject; and to read, if you read at all, with great distrust whatever fhall fall in your way respecting political economy. There is one French writer, (the marquis de Casaux,) who has thrown out some striking hints on this subject; but he has not explained them in such a way as to be intelligible almost to any one. His book is, therefore, a very improper one to be put into the hands of youth.

There is one performance in the French language which is altogether an *unique*. It is neither poetry nor prose. It is so unlike any thing that has ever appeared in any other language, that I fhould have been tempted to say it must be unnatural; yet the ideas it suggests are so pleasing, and the expreſsions flow so easily, that even I myself, who am perhaps rather fastidious in this respect, cannot venture to condemn it. You will easily conceive I here allude to the Telemaque of Fenelon. It is one of those performances which, if it had not been made, we fhould have said could never be produced. It is one of those originals which it is impofsible not to admire; but which no man of discernment will say ought ever to be imitated. We have had plenty of *prose run mad* in Britain; but nothing that can be compared with this performance. It deserves to be studied

for its singularity, it deserves to be admired for its beauties. In its present state it must prove highly interesting to youth, who are ardent in the the pursuit of virtue and emulous of distinction. Were some of the prolix details lopped off, it would be a work interesting even to the aged.

MASSILLON, BOURDALUE, FLECHIER, and BOSSUET, are all celebrated writers, who having poſſeſsed great talents, and great knowledge of the foibles of their compatriots, acquired a high degree of reputation, during their own lifetime, in a luxurious court, and laid the foundation of that rhetorical stile of pulpit oratory which has produced such a torrent of bombast in the composition of latter times. The *eloge's* which have been pronounced on the death of illustrious persons in France since the acceſsion of Louis XIV. form an immense maſs of the most nauseating compositions that ever were conceived by man. I hope the spirit which now begins to appear will check the taste for this kind of writing; and I ſhould be well pleased, if you could throw every thing of that kind aside. But that spirit of exaggerated praise and pompous extravagance in rhetorical figures, hath been so intimately conjoined with biography of all sorts, that it is impoſsible to acquire any knowledge of eminent men without being cloyed with that bombast. What a noble figure does Plutarch make, when surrounded by this motley group! It is the statue of Antinuous amidst a company of dancing masters.

THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY THE PRESENT, COMPARED WITH THE ANCIENT STATE OF SCOTLAND, AND THE RAPID IMPROVEMENTS NOW GOING FORWARD IN IT.

Written in January 1793.

IT is a curious phenomenon in the history of civil society, that at a time when Britain is loaded with a public debt to the amount of nearly ten times the sum that many of the most able political calculators deemed more than sufficient to produce a national bankruptcy, and to operate as such a check upon industry as would inevitably ruin our trade and manufactures, it is nevertheless experienced, that our trade and manufactures are now in a more flourishing state than the imagination of the most sanguine projector a few years ago could have deemed *possible*, and that money abounds to such an inconceivable degree, as to afford matter for wonder and astonishment to every one. This shows how little qualified men are to judge, *a priori*, in speculating upon matters respecting government, and therefore ought to teach us to be cautious in relying with confidence on any thing else than actual *practice* and *experience* in matters of this sort.

It is no less curious to remark, that at a time when every person acknowledges that agriculture, manufactures, and commerce are in such a flourishing state as never before was experienced in this country; and that men of every rank are capable of spending, and do actually expend much greater

sums of money than at any former period, a great many persons ſhould ſuffer themſelves to be perſuaded that this country experiences a ſtate of poverty and diſtreſs which ought not to be tolerated; and which cannot long be endured without the moſt terrible internal convulſions. The following undeniable facts will clearly ſhow on what foundation theſe opinions reſt.

Scotland, from the Union downwards, till the year 1745, experienced a ſtate of extraordinary languor and debility. Her trade was inconſiderable, her agriculture in the moſt wretched ſtate of neglect, and her manufactures nothing. Her people were oppreſsed, abject, and diſpirited; her nobles poor, proud, and haughty, even to a proverb; and there ſeemed to be no hope of ever ſeeing a ſpirit of active induſtry excited in this nation. Like a bee hive deprived of its queen, all exertions for the public weal ſeemed to be ſuſpended, and nothing more was looked for or expected, than that of preſerving for a few years the miſerable exiſtence of a ſmall number of languid individuals, in whom even the hope of ever ſeeing better days ſeemed to be entirely extinguiſhed.

Deſpair, at length, produced among a few a feeble effort to change their ſituation, which, in its conſequences, has been productive of the moſt beneficial effects. The rebellion in 1745 was eaſily ſuppreſsed; but that circumſtance fortunately called the attention of government to a country that had been hitherto conſidered as of no importance. And it having happened that the men in public office about

that time were endowed with greater talents than often fall to the ſhare of those who hold these high departments of state, they saw the propriety of moderating the power of the aristocracy. The abolition of hereditary jurisdictions, which the bulk of the people at that time considered as of no consequence to them, laid the foundation of that prosperity we now enjoy, without any violent national convulsion. The making of turnpike roads in the south of Scotland, which soon after followed, much against the will of the lower orders of the people, who have been so much benefitted by them, happily co-operated with this. These, together, have excited a spirit of industry, which, though at first feeble and of little avail, has been since advancing and accelerating, almost in a geometrical progreſsion, till the present time, when its strides are so truly gigantic as almost to exceed belief. The following facts will serve to mark the rate of this progreſs to those who have not turned their attention to this subject.

In the year 1772 Mr Alexander Fordyce, in London, became a bankrupt. The whole sum he owed amounted to about L. 70,000. This failure occasioned a national ſhock that was severely felt through every part of the land. In Scotland, in particular, it occasioned an universal consternation, and nearly an universal bankruptcy. No man who had money considered himself as ſafe; and an universal distrust in regard to credit between man and man was the consequence.

In the year 1786, just fourteen years after this calamitous event, the Meſsrs Stevens and Haigs failed. The sums they owed amounted to above L. 500,000. A failure happened in Manchester about the same time for debts to nearly the same amount. But so different was the state of the country from what it had been only fourteen years before, that the effects of these two great failures were scarcely felt among mercantile men. Not a single bankruptcy of any consequence ensued; credit continued as usual; and it seemed a matter of such trifling moment, in regard to Scotland in particular, that though on that occasion diſhonoured bills were returned to Edinburgh in the course of a few months, to the amount of some hundred thousand pounds, it did not occasion an alteration in the course of exchange to the amount of a single farthing.

In the year 1763, by order of the trustees for encouraging manufactures in Scotland, a survey was made by Mr Smeaton of the track for a navigable canal between the Clyde and the Forth, who gave in a report and estimate on that subject in the year following. This estimated expence amounting to the sum of L. 80,000, was deemed at that time an undertaking of too great magnitude for Scotland to atchieve. After long delays, it was at last attempted;—money fell ſhort; the work was interrupted; the undertakers, of course, during this period, were great losers;—and there seemed no prospect of getting it ever concluded;—till at length government interfered; and, by advancing the sum wanting, got the canal at last completed, after remaining near

twenty years in an unfiniſhed state. This is perhaps the only instance on record of the public money in Britain being laid out for promoting a national undertaking, that was in the end to prove beneficial to the state by diminiſhing, directly, without any fallacy, the burdens of the public; and proves, *practically*, that the discharge of the national debt is by no means impoſsible; for as it is now no longer doubtful that government will draw at the rate of *ten per cent.* for the money thus expended, it must continue to operate as a powerful sinking fund, till the whole money expended on this undertaking ſhall be repaid; and then it must operate as a national revenue, applicable to the further exigencies of the state. It is hoped the reader will pardon this incidental digreſsion, as it tends to ſhow how much more beneficial it is to apply some part of the national treasure to constructing useful works at home, than to the acquisition of foreign conquests, which can have no other tendency than to promote the waste of national treasure, and to extend the influence of extravagance and corruption wider and wider every day.

A canal of great utility, though, when compared with the former, of infinitely smaller consequences, has been lately proposed to be carried acroſs the isthmus of Cantire, commonly called the *Crinan canal*, of which some account has been given in the Bee, vol. xi. p. 141. A survey was accordingly made of it last season; and the estimated expence amounted to L. 75,000. At a meeting of the gentlemen of Argyleſhire, held at Inverary on the 11th of October last, it was agreed to carry this canal into

execution; and a subscription being opened, the gentlemen present subscribed L. 18,000. In leſs than two months the whole subscription was filled up, and a considerable overplus remained for extra contingent expences. On account of some proposed alteration which will occasion a greater expence, the subscription is opened anew; and there is no doubt but the sum wanted will soon be obtained.

In filling up this subscription, the people in England have been permitted to have a ſhare; but another canal being just now in agitation, to be made between Glasgow and Edinburgh, a meeting was called at Edinburgh in January last, for taking the subject into consideration. The estimated expence of this canal was supposed to be L. 160,000; and though a proper survey had not been made of it, nor the exact line in which it ſhould go, been determined on, yet so eager were men to obtain a ſhare in this undertaking, that no sooner was a subscription opened, than there was a preſs of people crowding to subscribe; so that many were waiting the whole time, to take up the pen as soon as those before them had done with it, until the whole of that sum was subscribed.

And as many were still preſsing forward, and expreſsed great vexation at being disappointed, it was agreed, in order to satisfy them, that a new conditional subscription ſhould be opened, on the footing, that in case the original sum ſhould fall ſhort of the real expence, the money subscribed by those who stood on the second list ſhould be accepted, as far as it ſhould be wanted, in proportion to the order they

stood in that list. In a few days I am assured there has been subscribed, in this second list, to the amount of about an hundred thousandpounds.

These are proofs of the progress of improvement, and the overflowing of wealth in this remote country, that are incontrovertibly demonstrative, and must afford to foreigners, into whose hand this Journal shall fall, the most pleasing evidence of the surprisingly beneficial effects of a free government in promoting the wealth of a people, and the aggrandisement of nations. Should this memoir fall into the hands of any young person, who may afterwards come to have sway in the councils of any nation, it may probably impress his mind with a feeling conviction of the great propriety of adverting to the circumstances that have a remote tendency to promote the domestic prosperity of individuals, even where they are not capable of observing it themselves. Of this nature, I am happy to be able to say, is the proposition of abolishing the coasting coal duty, so judiciously brought forward by the administration of Britain at present; and should a time ever come when the salt duty shall be also abolished, the prosperity of this country, instead of being confined, as has been hitherto in some measure the case, to a few narrow districts, will be widely diffused into the most remote corners of the state, so as to produce a blaze of universal energy that has had no parallel in the annals of the universe.

If, along with the means just hinted at, navigable canals shall be encouraged as much as they ought to

be, and if these ſhall be conducted upon rational principles, and managed with economy, the proſperity of this country will be carried much farther than we even yet ſeem to have a juſt idea of. In a future paper I ſhall venture to ſtate ſome general principles that deſerve to be attended to in the conducting of navigable canals, if the general improvement of the country, and the emolument of the undertakers, which are inſeparably connected with each other, be attended to.

ON ANCIENT ASSASSINS.

For the Bee.

Mr Editor,

The inclosed ſhort paper is from a learned and ingenious gentleman, whom I ſhould be happy to engage in a correſpondence with the Bee, from a conviction that the public would be much pleaſed with his valuable communications.

The author has ſpent a great part of his life at Baſora, Conſtantinople, and Crim Tartary, ſo that, with the ſpirit of reſearch, and the knowledge of languages and ſcience he poſſeſſes, he could not fail to be a moſt valuable correſpondent. In the mean time he has ſent me the following remark on a ſubject much talked of at preſent, *viz.* *The Old Man of the Mountain*, and his obedient ſubjects, who have never been rivalled till now, that the French promiſe to ſurpaſs them in their profeſſion of aſſaſſins.

Arcæus.

[Here follows my friend's observation, drawn from an intimate acquaintance of the Arabic.]

PEOPLE are now frequently speaking of and quoting the *Old Man of the Mountain*, with his subjects, the Haſsaſsi or Aſsaſsi, so ready to execute his bloody mandates; from which men, following the profeſsion the French so much glory in at preſent, were called aſsaſsins. The hiſtory of that people is too well known to you, and the public in general, to require any information from me on the ſubject; but I cannot help wondering at the name their chief goes by in Europe, *viz. Old Man of the Mountain*, which is ſo different from his real title, *Sheeh ul Gabel*, in Arabic, *i. e.* Sovereign, or Prince of the Mountains, in Engliſh. This miſtake has probably been owing to the firſt tranſlator's ignorance of the great latitude in the meaning and application of the word *Sheeh*, amongſt the different people ſpeaking different dialects of the Arabic, or languages derived from it. For example, the Arabs of the deſert uſe it to deſignate the ſovereign of a tribe; and with them, and all thoſe who uſe it in this ſenſe, it is the higheſt title they are acquainted with, or acknowledge on earth. Amongſt the Arabs of the deſert, *Sheeh* is likewiſe employed, in ſome parts, to men of diſtinction, as we do Sir, Lord, Monſieur, and Seigneur; and it is given to the commander or head of a caravan. In Syria the chief of a village, who is commonly a venerable old man, is called the *Sheeh* of the village; although he has in reality no

other power but what the love and confidence of the inhabitants give him, for the purpose of keeping order; and he is obeyed out of respect to his age and wisdom.

Idiots and madmen are likewise often called *Shechs*, because they are generally reputed holy, and thought to be inspired, particularly when they are more knaves than fools, and go about propheſying and working miracles, as tricks of hocus pocus are called by the ignorant Mahometans.

This great latitude in the application of the title *Shech*, may therefore have misled the translator of the title of the sovereign of the Haſsaſsi, and induced him to interpret *Shech ul Gabel, Old Man of the Mountain*; as if he had been only a chief from reapect and age, like the old man of a Syrian village; but it is a mistake, as the Arabic title means, in that phraſe, the real prince or sovereign of a people, and is synonimous to Sultan, Khan, and Emir; all four different names for the sovereigns of different tribes of Arabs, but no one of them claim the least superiority or pre-eminence on account of his superior title.

I ſhall conclude these remarks on the title of *Shech*, by observing, that this and Emir are alone employed to designate the Arab princes *in Arabia*, whilst those of Sultan and Khan are employed as titles for the princes of the Arab tribes on the coast of Persia.

If you like these observations on the old ruffian and his subjects, so often mentioned at present in newspapers, &c. to ſhow from whom the French

are so emulous of taking example, and a new name, they are much at your service, to do with them what you please, till leisure may produce some other disquisition more important and useful from your old friend

OLD BYSANTHIUM.

THE MANNNER THE TURKS POSSESS OF SETTING JEWELS ON WATCHES, HILTS OF SCIMITARS, &c. BY MEANS OF A CEMENT OR GLUE, WHICH NEVER FALLS OUT.

Communicated by Arcticus.

DISSOLVE five or six bits of mastic, about the size of peas, in as much spirit of wine as is necessary for their perfect liquidity; then dissolve in French brandy a piece of isinglass, (sufficient to make about two ounces of glue by measure,) which has been previously soaked all night in water; and, lastly, add to the solution of isinglass in brandy, three small pieces of gum galbanum, of the size of peas, like the mastic, and let the whole be perfectly dissolved and then mixed together. With this composition you may set stones, glue pieces of polished steel or glass together, &c. always taking care that the bodies to be joined be perfectly clean and free from oily particles. They ought always to be heated likewise before junction, in proportion as their respective natures will bear without injury.

My friend likewise mentions another art, possessed and practised by the Greeks in Smyrna, but which he thinks may be known in Britain, *viz.* a way of

preparing cotton, so as to take on any kind of colours like silk.

This is by simply boiling it first in a solution of *mild* alkali, and then in oil.

ANECDOTES OF HUNTING, BY ARCTICUS.

For the Bee.

Manner of shooting the great grous in Russia.

I am ignorant if the Russian manner of shooting two species of large game is familiar to some of your readers; but it certainly cannot be so to all. I shall therefore give an outline of it for two reasons, the *first* is its having been a favourite amusement of the empress Elisabeth and her court in a former reign; the *second*, its pointing out two curious circumstances in the natural history of the two species of game, the tetrao urogallus, or great grous, a very large fowl, and the tetrao tetrix, or black game, something smaller, which last was the ancient object of the imperial hunt, although now fallen into disuse in the present reign, which encourages no species of chace, although hounds, hawks, and huntsmen, are still kept up as formerly, under the two Veneurs, *viz.* the grand huntsman, prince Galitzen, and master of the hounds, Potemkin, mentioned in a former article, rather for show than use, although some of the nobility, and lovers of hunting, profit by the neglected establishment.

The manner of shooting the large grous is founded on the curious trait of its character alluded to

formerly, which is ſhutting its eyes in rapture at its own music, though certainly none of the ſweeteſt; during which extacy the ſportſman walks boldly on, without fear of alarming it with the ruſtling of buſhes, or any common noiſe; but ſhould the bird ceaſe to ſing, as they call it, he muſt inſtantly ſtop, and ſtand motionleſs like a ſtatue, without even venturing to turn his head towards the tree where his game ſits, or he is ſure to loſe it; ſuch is the quickneſs of its eye and ear, when not faſcinated with its own note. On the grous beginning another air, the ſportſman puſhes on without farther circumſpection, often up to the very tree, and brings down the ſilly bird, which Æſop would not have failed to make famous for its folly in a fable, had it inhabited Greece, or the range of his travels.

Manner of ſhooting the black cock.

THE ſhooting of black game, or the black cock, is of that ſocial kind which collect ſportſmen together in parties, and uſed in a former reign, as ſaid above, to be the favourite amuſement of the court.

Theſe are little ſhooting huts built on purpoſe in the woods frequented by the black game, full of loop holes, like little forts, where the company watch the aſſembling of the game on the ſurrounding trees, dreſſed out with artificial decoy birds, commonly made of black cloth, with the marks of the natural fowl, and ſhoot them through the deſcribed openings, without taking the trouble of moving from their ſeats.

In this manner the company are all lodged in separate parties and huts, in various parts of the woods, where there is commonly likewise good cheer; so that they enjoyed the pleasure without the fatigues of the chace, with the additional advantage of society and refreshment, whilst waiting for game.

The black game are by no means scared away by the report of a gun, if they do not see the sportsman; so that several may be killed on the same tree; but, particularly, if by chance three or four are placed on branches one above another; the sportsman has then only to shoot the undermost bird first, and then the others gradually upwards in succession; as the superior fowl is earnestly employed in looking down after his fallen companion, and keeps chattering to it till his own turn comes.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

VIRTUE is undoubtedly most laudable in that state which makes it most difficult; and therefore the humanity of a goaler certainly deserves public approbation; and the man whose heart has not been hardened by such an employment, may be justly proposed as a pattern of benevolence.

Upon reports of extraordinary *sanctity*, do not wholly slight them, because they may be true; but do not easily trust them, because they may be false.

April 3.

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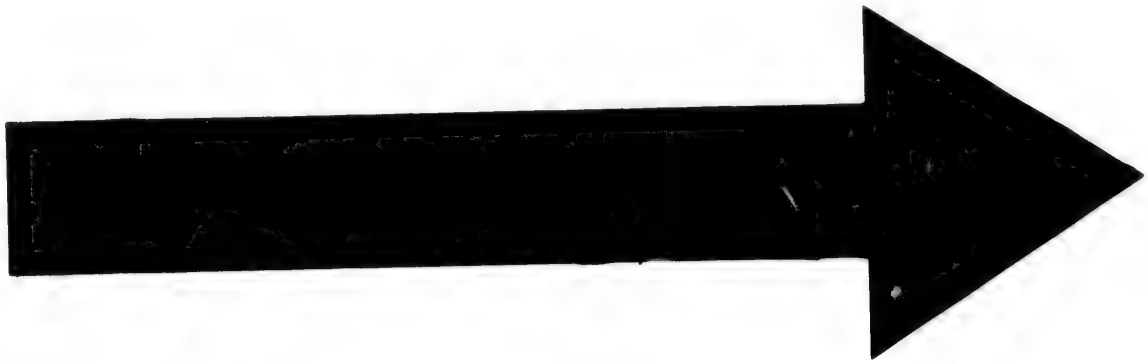

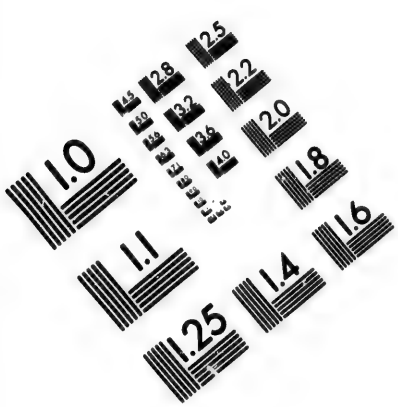

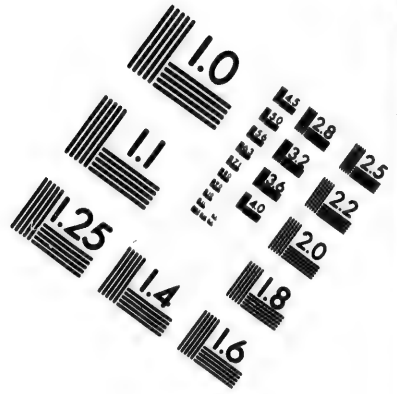

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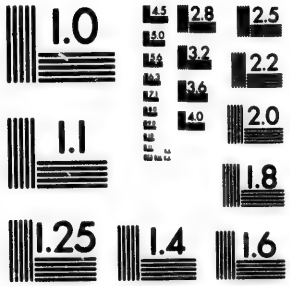

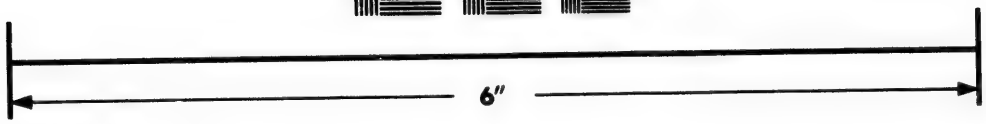

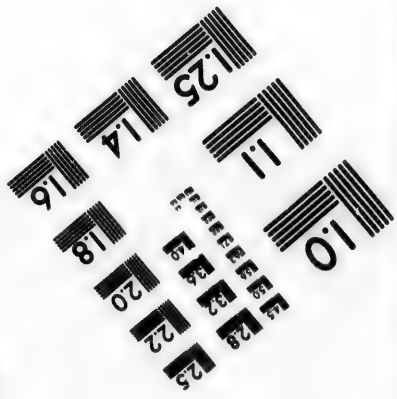

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SIR, TO THE EDITOR OF THE BEE.

IF the following stanzas meet your approbation, and would not disgrace your Miscellany, their insertion would much oblige your humble servant, M.

THE BLIND BOY.

PITY the wailings of the poor blind boy,
Bereft of ev'ry comfort of this life;
Of ev'ry sweet, of ev'ry little joy,
And still expos'd to all its bitter strife!

Ne'er have I wander'd from this humble cot,
For here my father and my mother liv'd;
But they are dead and sorrow is my lot,
Oh leave a little of the wealth you've sav'd!

No riches had my sire;—a lab'ring life
Procur'd a pittance to his children dear;
Three sons, a daughter, and a loving wife,
Divided all his love and all his care.

But heaven took him from our eager arms!
My mother pin'd;—the cause my father's death;
My brothers mix'd in wild war's rude alarms,
And for their country yielded up their breath!

But these were woes I bore with manly grief;
Oh hear my wailings, they your pity crave!
For now no hope, sad lengthen'd, gives relief!
No peace for me, but in the dreary grave!

My sister who was left with me alone,
My guide to pitying friends from door to door,
Was by a villain cruelly undone,
Who neither car'd for pity nor the poor!

Disease ensued.—She rav'd and pin'd away
And still to heaven, complaining, pour'd her soul;
But dreary madness, growing night and day,
Confin'd her to the dismal cell, how foul!

Life runs apace, and all these ills I bear,
Nought can my ling'ring days from sorrow save;
The smallest pittance from your flowing chear,
Will keep a wretched victim from the grave.

Pity the sorrows of the poor blind boy,
Bereft of ev'ry comfort of this life!
Of ev'ry sweet, of ev'ry little joy,
And still expos'd to all its bitter strife! M.

VERSES TO THE POPPY, BY MRS CHARLOTTE SMITH.

HAIL, precious bloſom! thou canſt eaſe
The wretched victims of diſeaſe;
Canſt cloſe thoſe weary eyes in gentle ſleep
Which never open but to weep;
For, Oh! thy potent charm
Can agoniſing pain diſarm;
Expel imperious mem'ry from her ſeat,
And bid the throbbing heart forget to beat.

Soul-ſoothing plant! that can ſuch bleſſings give,
By thee the mourner bears to live!
By thee the hopeleſs die!
Oh! ever "friendly to deſpair,"
Might ſorrow's pallid vot'ry dare,
Without a crime, that remedy implore,
Which bids the ſpirit from its bondage fly,
I'd court thy palliative aid no more;
No more I'd ſue that thou ſhouldſt ſpread
Thy ſpell around my aching head,
But would conjure thee to impart
Thy balſam for a broken heart;
And by thy ſoft Lethean pow'r,
Inestimable flow'r!
Burſt theſe terreſtrial bonds, and other regions try.

AN EXTRACT FROM THE "TOMB OF CHARLOTTE,"

A poem by Mrs Horrel.

THE red breaſt oft is ſeen at evening hours,
Dreſſing her grave with never-fading flow'rs;
And Philomel has near her built her neſt,
And ſings in mournful ſtrains her ſoul to reſt.
Sweet plaintive warbler of the feather'd throng!
To you ſuch tender ſtrains belong,
Still hover round this ſpot, and guard her bed.
Whilſt Robin's moſs lies lightly o'er her head;
No nightly owl from ivy neſt ſhall ſcream,
No goblins haunt this ever verdant ſcene,
But pearly drops deſcend from weeping dews,
And ſpring perpetual all her ſweets diffuſe.

Concerning the Road towards Perfection.

For the Bee.

Wisdom is the great and chief object: therefore get wisdom, get understanding: forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee, and bring thee to honour. [Proverbs of Solomon, the Son of David, *Chap* iv. *ver.* 5. 6. 7.]

Knowledge, whether in the form of history or science, is surely of great value to the intellectual nature of man; and *the records of knowledge, preserved in literary compositions* are, the principal means of communicating its benefits from age to age, and from one nation to another. An art by which this effect is produced, may no doubt be placed among the most effectual means of cultivating the faculties of man, of forwarding his progress, of extending the fruits of experience, and of augmenting the powers to be derived from a just notion and application of the laws by which human nature is governed.

The mere conceptions also of superior genius, and the sentiments which arise in such minds, whether fictitious or real, remaining with the people, in literary monuments of any denomination, *must contribute to form the national character, and give to* ordinary men, *some participation of the sentiment and thought which took their rise* from the exertions of a superior mind.

"The monuments of literature and arts produced in one age, remain with the ages that follow, and serve as a kind of ladder, *by which the human faculties, mounting upon steps,* which ages successively place, [arrive in the end at those heights of exquisite discernment, and elegant

choice, which, in the pursuit of its objects, the mind of man is qualified to obtain." [Principles of Moral and Political Science by Dr Adam Ferguson.]

"To the mind which is by nature endowed with a discernment of rectitude and truth, the experience even of evil may lead the way to what is good.

"Society, in which alone the distinction of right and wrong is exemplified, may be considered as the garden of God, in which the tree of knowledge of good and evil is planted, and in which men are destined to distinguish, and to choose, among its fruits." [Ibid.]

"In society the human mind must, as it were, draw the first breath of intelligence itself; or if not the vital air by which the celestial fire of moral sentiment is kindled, we cannot doubt but it is of mighty effect in exciting the flame; and that the minds of men, to use a familiar example, may be compared to those blocks of fuel, which, taken apart, are hardly to be lighted, but if gathered into a heap, are easily kindled into a blaze." [Ibid.]

"The affairs of society require the light of science, as well as the direction of a virtuous conduct, *insomuch, that the recluse, by investigating the laws of nature, and the principles which relate to the concerns of men, is no less employed for his country than the most active of its servants; or than those who are most occupied in discharging the functions of state.*" [Ibid.]

* * * * The reader who has selected these passages for the Bee, is prompt and warm to declare, that he thinks the philosopher from whose pen they come is well entitled to the furlough from society, the proper use of which he has both so handsomely made and explained. Dr Ferguson is a singular instance of a man's heart and genius warming and firing with a length of life.

However much the reader was pleased with the accuracy of his essay on Civil Society, and his History of the Roman Republic, he thought they wanted that unction which he is happy to observe in his last great and useful publication.

The fifteenth and sixteenth sections of his second chapter, and the fourteenth of the third, are entitled to high commendation; the love of virtue and of humanity call for it; and *from the depth of that solitude, for which the Doctor has endeavoured to obtain a patent*, the reader desires to bestow it on the Principles of Moral and Political Science.

A new invented Improvement in the Machinery of Cotton Mills.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

At a time when the success of our manufactures depends so much upon improvements in machinery, it is presumed that every information upon that subject will be acceptable to your readers.

William Kelley, of Lanark cotton mills, has invented a new method of erecting the great gear of mills for spinning twist, at less expence, and so as to require a smaller quantity of water to do the same work, than by any other method formerly practised; and it is so constructed, that any *single drum and shaft* can be stopped, without interruping the movements of any of the other drums, on either side of the one stopped; and the manner of stopping is so simple, that it can be done with the greatest facility by the children employed in spinning at the drums.

The advantages of the above improvement are of considerable importance, as a reduction in the quantity of

water neceſsary for these operations, must enhance the value of small streams to the proprietors; and the convenience of stopping a single drum of spinning, with its *ſhaft*, is a vast saving of time, when compared with stopping a half *floor* of spinning every time that it is neceſsary to stop a single drum and ſhaft, which is the case in the one mode generally in use, and no leſs than half the mill by the other method practised hitherto; and it is not the least pleasing part of the humane contrivance, of putting it in the power of those employed at each drum, instantly to stop the whole machinery connected with it, by which, accidents by entanglement will be timely prevented, whereas the time neceſsary to do this, in the present way, puts it out of their power.

Since receiving the above, the Editor has seen a model thus constructed, and is satisfied that it will be found to be a great and important improvement, in respect of the following particulars.

1. As nothing but *perpendicular* axles are employed by this mode of construction, the great increased friction occasioned by using *horizontal* axles is entirely saved, by which means a proportional increased quantity of work will be performed by the same moving power.

2. As *one* drum only ever needs to be stopped when an accident happens to itself, instead of stopping thirty or forty in some cases, or five or six almost at the fewest, in the most improved machinery hitherto used, it follows, that in a given time, the stoppages in the machinery must be proportionally fewer, and the quantity of work performed in a given time, at the same expence, must be increased at the same rate.

3. As the stoppage of a great proportion of the machinery at one time must diminiſh the weight of the machine,

the velocity of motion it thus acquires will be in proportion to the quantum of that diminution of weight; so that where many drums are alternately stopped, or put in motion at once, the irregularity thus occasioned in the movements of the machinery must be much greater than where the stoppages are few; but in this case the stoppage is of one only at a time, which cannot occasion any sensible variation.

4. As in this case the spindle, as well as the drum itself, is stopped, and as that can be done in a moment by the child at the place, instead of requiring, as before, that they ſhould run to a diſtance to do it, the danger of accidents by twisting in the clothes of the persons employed, as well as that of breaking the parts of the machinery, is greatly diminiſhed. On all these accounts this improvement must be deemed a very eſsential one by every person engaged in the cotton spinning buſineſs by machinery; and it is with pleasure I add, that the contrivance by which it is effected is so simple, as to be in no danger of going out of order, and the expence of thus constructing a machine will be at first smaller, and will require leſs to keep it in repair, than those of the present construction.

When on this subject, I beg leave to suggest the propriety of every owner of cotton works, or extensive machinery of any sort, adopting a uniform in regard to the faſhion of the dreſs of those employed; *viz.* for boys a close jacket without tails, with tight sleeves, and breeches or close trowsers, without any strings or loose laps about them of any sort. The sleeves, and upper part of the girl's dreſs, ſhould be all made without flaps or strings of any sort, and quite tight. It is more difficult to contrive petticoats that are in no danger of entanglement; but these ought always to be made of thick stuff, to reach as

low down the leg only as is necessary for decency, and to be as strait as shall not incommode the person in walking. In all cases the hair should be kept quite short.

Literary Olla. No. vi.

For the Bee.

Ecce super vacuis (quid enim fuit utile rasci?)
Ad sua natalis tempora noctes adest.

The last and valedictory letter of Foulirius Eremitus, to Ascanius Trimontanus.

Thus I mark the day that was once counted the 15th, but now the 26th, of the month of March, not without a tacit reproof to some folk that commonly omit to date their letters. I look upon the date of a friendly epistle as containing half the substance of its contents. I take pleasure in knowing the exact day when a friend bestowed some thought upon me, which he has testified by his writing to me.

My thoughts are now taken up about my future hermitage, about which I have made some slight beginnings, deferring the finishing it for a month or two longer, till I get some cash for a quarry, out of which I am to take the stones for its erection. Some new fancies about it have entered into my brain, that will make it exceed every thing I have either seen or read of. But before I go about to endeavour to entertain you about it, I must first endeavour to rectify your Philosophership's opinion about a matter of this kind, as you told me "that it was only once to look at it, and no more; all farther thoughts of such a thing expired with that single view."

Be pleased Ascanius to observe, "That when a person who has any imagination, and who has read about

any thing of that kind, sees a well contrived hermitage, it immediately recalls to his mind Montserrat, and whatever else of that nature he has met with in Spenser, Tasso, Ariosto, and whatever else old Bards have sung

> " Of fairies and enchantments drear,
> " Where more is meant than meets the ear."

To me my hermitage recalls several I have seen, with little chapels and small vineyards, and it recalls a hermit in Germany, who was a most accomplished pimp. These are the thoughts such things ought to produce in you, Ascanius; and I hope that what I have now written on the point, will open to you a new source of pleasure and reflection.

You must remember a narrow precipitous passage in my bank, by which it was thought improper for *a short sighted philosopher* to pass with spurs. I have amended it; but in such a way that its rusticity does not hinder it from affording as great facility for descent or ascent as any monarch can find in his spacious marble stair case.

I chose two young trees entwisted with ivy, which I have planted as two posts to my door; which make a passage so simple, that Lycurgus himself could not have found fault with it, as being too much laboured. On the side opposite to the door, near the top of the wall, is to be a window, not of the usual form, but lying flat lengthwise, and instead of glass it shall have an ox's bladder, which will exclude the wind, and all external objects, but admit *a dim religious light.*

As the wall is to be formed of clay, it shall be stuck thick with wallflower, and other rock plants, and from the very first assume the air of an old building. In the middle of the area of the cell, the ground shall be raised about the height of an ordinary grave, on which is to lie a flat stone, of due dimension to serve as a seat and table for the hermit, and the following inscription at the one

end, *super hoc quiesco*, and at the other, *requiescam*. To unfeeling *philosophical* minds, this will be but a fleeting sight; but to those who are endowed with more fancy, and more acute feelings, it will present ideas of a very serious nature. Such objects might have reformed Don Quixote from his chivalry, and have really persuaded him to follow his squire's advice, to turn hermit. You will probably guess on whom I was thinking when I made a rustic stair case, for the accomodation of those who wear that courtly instrument, the spur; and that I had quite different sentiments towards the object of my thoughts, from what Brutus and Cassius had, about eighteen hundred years ago, on the day of which this is the anniversary.

To all the objects above mentioned, I think only of adding a human skull; and if the skull were that of a female that had once been handsome, in case the old hermit's passions should stir, they might be repressed, by seeing what beauty must become, and what must be the termination of all human enjoyments.

While I am writing this letter, I have received the disagreeable, but not unexpected account of the death of my worthy friend *Amadies*, for whom I have entertained the greatest esteem, and most constant regard, these three and forty years.

By testimonies, from different hands, it is confirmed, that my correspondence was one of his greatest pleasures in life, and my letters one of the first entertainments he produced to his learned friends. Now, therefore, I am of less consequence to any person in the world, and can follow him to the next with the less reluctance.

My hermitage will be a proper place to think on, and prepare myself for the journey. When you come this

way, you may do worse than take a view of it, and a leave of me. It may be now justly told me, *tempus est abire tibi*; yet I find that I have not been quite useless in the creation, of which I can give a strong instance. I once got some seeds from the famous old cedars of Mount Libanus, and on one of the trees sprung from them, a wood pigeon is now hatching her young, and I am very careful that she may not be disturbed in that pious office. This careful mother is probably the first that ever took up her domicil on a Scottish cedar.

The tree is situated near the rudest part of my banks, well sketched in a line that lately met my eye in a modern poem,

Too sweetly wild for chance, too greatly bold for art.

To view rural scenes, Ascanius, and to refer to descriptions of their peculiarities in the best writers, adds a new beauty to the fields, and obviates the satiety of possession, or of frequent enjoyment.

"Methinks I know, charm'd with the scenes I love,
"Each tree a nymph, a god in every grove."

Farewell!

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

Continued from p. 152.

J. B. sends a few lines intended as an enlargement of verse 2d of psalm cxxi. Perhaps nothing has tended so much to weaken the general respect for the sublime beauties of the Holy Scriptures as poetical versions of them. The Psalms, in particular, have certainly suffered very much in this way. To a *pious* mind every thing that conveys sentiments of piety will appear beautiful; but when a publication is to be submitted to readers of such various descriptions as this Miscellany, perhaps no kind of writings should be scrutinized with so much care as those of a pious tendency, lest they should occasionally give rise to jests and scoffing at holy things, among those

who are in search of things of that sort. The verses, if on another subject, would have had a much better chance of passing with us.

Eubusius is much dissatisfied with the Editor, for not having inserted a letter he took the trouble to send for the Bee, supposed to have been written from a schoolmaster to his mistress, of which the following is a short extract as a specimen:

"DEAR MADAM,

If there be yet no *preposition* towards a *conjunction* with you, be pleased to accept of this *interjection* of my pretences; for I do *pronount, adverbum*, that I desire to be *adjective* to you in all cases;" and so on. It is hoped the above will be deemed a long enough specimen of this very witty letter.

A——n thinks many improvements might be made in regard to taxes. He asks, "If it would not be an improvement not to give any share of the seizure to the officers of customs and excise; but for the whole to go to government; and the revenue officers who were active, to be promoted, after a stated time, to a higher office?" Might it not in this case be asked, What person in high office would keep an exact list of the feats of activity of the different officers, so as to reward them in exact proportion to that activity? He thinks "the fees should be abolished, and higher salaries given." This has been in part done; but who can judge of the value of an unauthorised fee so well as the person who is to pay it? and what law can prevent such fees from being given and received? He proposes that a tax should be laid upon dogs. He does not think the tax upon windows unreasonable, since its amount is in general in proportion to the wealth of the occupier.—This will be disputed. He refers the author of "Conjectures on Taxation on the Subject of Stamps," to Blackstone, who observes, "That though in some instances it may be heavily felt; yet it is, in other cases, of use; particularly in preventing and detecting forgeries." On the subject of taxation many objects require to be very carefully examined, before any rational decision can be made.

Rob the Ranter sends a letter consisting of phrases borrowed from the names of popular ballads, strung together so as to have some appearance of what some would account wit. It is of great length. Our readers will probably be satisfied with the following specimen of this performance:

"DEAR SANDY, *Bonny Dundee, Tuesday in the Morning.*

Having determined to pay a visit to "the Broom of the Cowden Knows," in company with the "Rakes of Malo," and "the Lads of Dunse;" and in our way paid a visit to our old friend, "Muirland

Willie," who insisted on our staying a week. "John o' Badenyon," himself, could not have entertained us better:—not a day but we had the "Roast Beef of Old England," "Mutton Pies," "Brose and Butter," "Pease upon a Trencher," "a Basket of Oysters," and "Bannocks o' Barley Meal;" after which his constant charge to us was to "Fill every glass!" "Push about the Jorum!" "Let the toast pass!" but by no means to drink "Hooly and fairly!"——The rest of the letter is of a piece with this specimen, which we dare not venture to transcribe farther.

Regulus sends the following verses to the memory of Mr Thomson, which are given without any comment.

"The flowing Yarrow, full with briny tears,
In ev'ry season mourns thy bygone years;
As long as spring enlivens earth and men,
As long as summer chears the sportive swain,
While autumn loaded all her bounty brings,
While howling winter from his fireside rings,
So long shall Ednam hill admired be,
Because, great Thomson! it can boast of thee."

Rusticus complains of the tendency which prevails among too many landlords of raising their rents with injudicious severity, and deplores the evil consequences that result from it. "If men, (says he,) are to avail themselves of the talent for enterprise, they must be placed in circumstances of convenience and plenty. Poverty breaks the strength of the mind, and by a number of urgent claims, prevents the execution of any great and generous enterprise. What avails the conception of the most elevated design, if it must quickly pass away, and leave its place to be occupied by a crowd of distressing cares? When a man's industry is plentifully rewarded,—when he enjoys in quiet the fruits of his labour, energy is then given to his mind, he has leisure for observation and reflection, and emulation sharpens his talent for invention and judicious conduct. This is a state of mind necessary for carrying on the progress of cultivation; but it is a state of mind, which, if the system of rent-raising continue to prevail with the same rigour which has been employed for some time past, will fall to the share of few among the class of farmers."— — — — — "It would be a wise measure, were the proprietors of land to give premiums to the farmers distinguished for their industry and taste; hence the progress of improvement and opulence would be quickened; and, in the possession of a full stock of wealth, the tenant would be able to yield a certain and liberal yearly profit to the proprietor of the land." There is certainly much truth in what Rusticus here asserts; for ne-

thing can be more injudicious, than for a proprietor of land to grasp at an immoderate rise of rents. He will certainly banish the only tenants he ought to covet, men of wealth and independence of mind; and get his estate occupied by needy men, who are glad to accept of any conditions rather than be thrown quite destitute. As to premiums, it is an unfortunately circumstanced estate, which stands in need of these. The only premium a spirited farmer will ever require, is liberty to exercise his talents, and security to enjoy the wealth his industry shall enable him to attain.

The COUNTRY POST, *by John Gray junior*, contains some humour, which if a little more chastened, might have proved not a little entertaining. The plan seems to be excellent; and the execution, in point of stile, is much above mediocrity. The news here are FROM THE *great pond at the* end of the garden;—from the barn door,—from the byre,—from the farmer's hall,—from the kitchen,—from the church,—which last we shall give entire as a specimen.

" Though it cannot be expected that any thing new or interesting can be dated from *this place*, yet we think it but doing justice to the reverend pastor, to communicate the excellent and pious scheme which he has lately put in practice, with a view to advance the interests of religion in this contracted corner of the vineyard. After having for several years rung the changes upon heaven, hell, death, life, joy, torment, *&c. &c.*; and observing to his great grief, that they did not produce the desired effect; that his little flock was not only growing thinner every week, but that even those who attended *for the sake of news*, &c. often preferred the sweetness of sleep to the most sublime and pathetic touches of his discourse, he resolved to entertain them with something out of the ordinary stile; something which should at least have novelty to recommend it.

" Accordingly, in pursuance of this admirable plan, he has, with great judgement, selected such passages of scripture, as mention any thing of conception, delivery, birth, generation, circumcision, marriage, *&c. &c.*; and from these he very artfully introduces the most masterly lectures on *anatomy*. Not on dry bones either. From his method of handling the subject, they might with greater propriety be termed lectures on *midwifery*.

" The consequences of this are such as might have been expected. The neighbouring churches are almost quite deserted, while ours is crowded beyond belief. They flock hither from every quarter; each rustic seems to swallow the discourse of this our truly *original* preach-

er; and (wonderful to be told!) the females no longer employ themselves in ogling the country beaux; with sober attention they sit their eyes, like their hearts, fixed on the venerable figure of their spiritual instructor. Such is the admirable plan adopted by our parson, ever anxious for the welfare of his flock. Let the beneficial consequences which are likely to attend it, stand up as irresistible proofs of the goodness of that heart, and the soundness of that head, which first devised the pious scheme. May all those parsons who are not troubled with too crowded an audience, take the hint, and follow the example of our reverend brother. Let them leave the dry tract of morality, and the mortifying paths of the gospel, and give lectures upon the more *useful*, the more interesting subject, *midwifery*."

From this specimen, our readers will not dispute the abilities of this correspondent; though we must regret he has prevented us from being able to avail ourselves of these talents; for this is the least exceptionable passage of his paper. How many an author has been driven, from a kind of necessity, to adopt plans of a similar nature to that which is here so ludicrously exposed, and have thus become panders of iniquity.

To Correspondents.

In reply to the letter from *Investigator*, which is written rather in a harsher strain than seemed to be necessary, the Editor begs leave to observe, that he has been the more slow in executing that part of his original plan which respected the decisions of the courts of law, because he has not found that his correspondents in general seemed to be very anxious about it. The letter here referred to is, he thinks, only the third he has received since the commencement of his work, which has mentioned that subject; and the two former were only gentle hints. To comply with the wishes of *Investigator*, notices of a few decisions that appear to be interesting to the public, or in some respects remarkable, shall be given; and as they shall appear to give satisfaction to our readers, or be little relished, they shall be either continued or discontinued. The following case, as it appeared to be of a very extraordinary tendency, was drawn up for publication some time ago, but allowed to lie bye, for the reasons assigned above.

A singular decision in a court of justice.

SOME time ago, Mr N. a ſhopkeeper in Edinburgh, having allowed his affairs to run into confuſion, they were put under the care of a truſtee for behoof of his creditors. Among other accounts that ſtood on his books, was one owing by Mrs B. to the amount of L. 15 for goods bought in his ſhop. The truſtee, on requiring payment for this account, could obtain no money, Mrs B. alleging that Mr T. the perſon who ſold the goods, was indebted to her to a greater amount. She was told that the goods belonged to Mr N. only in whoſe ſhop they had been bought; that Mr T. had no property in either the ſhop or the goods, but was merely a ſervant engaged to attend the ſhop, for a fixed ſalary weekly; and that any tranſactions that might have previouſly paſſed between her and him could not affect the preſent claim in the ſmalleſt degree. She ſtill refuſed to make payment. A ſuit was then commenced before the Baillie Court for recovery of payment. The facts above ſtated were all clearly proved; ſhe acknowledged the goods had been bought in the ſhop of Mr N. ſhe knowing at the time that it was his ſhop, nor had ſhe any reaſon to believe that Mr T. was in any reſpect a partner in buſineſs; yet a deciſion was given in favour of Mrs B. with full coſts of ſuit. In as far as the authority of this court goes, ſuch a deciſion would prove of the moſt pernicious tendency in trade.

The communication by *Biographicus*, containing a ſketch of the life of George Edwards, the celebrated naturaliſt, is thankfully received, and ſhall have a place as ſoon as room can be ſpared for it.

The concluſion of the important ſeries of eſſays by *Trader Political*, ſhall, if poſſible, appear in our next.

The fragments by lord Bacon, "On the art of life, in ordering expence with due regard to ſplendid economy," is come to hand, and will appear at as early a period as circumſtances will permit.

The character of *Sterne*, by *G. S.* is received; at the ſame time there has been another character of the ſame writer, by a correſpondent, ſome of whoſe obſervations have already appeared in a ſeries of letters in the Bee, which, on account of priority of claim, muſt firſt be admitted.

The account of S————g by the ſame hand, *G. S.* is alſo come to hand, and is under conſideration.

The verſes by *Proteus* ſhall have a place during the currency of the month.

[Farther acknowledgements deferred till our next.]

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10. 1793.

THE ELEPHANT.

Of all the animals with which we are acquainted, the elephant is, next to man, the most sagacious. The dog, the horse, and some others, are equally docile, and perhaps still more submissive to man; but none of them discover such strong indications of

memory, and the power of connecting causes with events, which we call reasoning, as the elephant. Hence it is not only susceptible of kindnefs and affection to the person who feeds and cares for it, and of immediate resentment against those who injure it; but it has also the faculty of retaining the sense of injury for a long time, and of seemingly contriving plans for being revenged, and executing these with much cunning and sagacity at a distant period. On account of these qualities, not lefs than because of its great strength, the elephant has long been the favourite domesticated animal among the monarchs of those countries where it is a native.

The elephant, when tamed, on account of its great size, and the vast quantity of food it consumes, is too expensive for private individuals; and is, therefore, in a great measure an attendant of royalty, and the most unequivocal badge of dignity and state in eastern nations. It has been for time immemorial also employed in war; and in old times the Asiatic princes used to indicate the force of armies, by the number of elephants each could bring into the field, in the same manner as the maritime nations in Europe now estimate their power by the number of ships of war they can fit out for sea. They were, indeed, in those days, a kind of moving fortrefses, which, for many ages, could only be resisted by more powerful fortifications of the same sort. It was only after the Greeks and Romans came to contend for power with the princes of Asia and Africa, that it was discovered that even the enormous strength of these animals was not proof against the

power of men acquainted with the best modes of military tactics. They were long, however, employed in the armies both of Carthage and of Rome. But in modern times their use has been entirely laid aside in battle, where European forces can be brought into the field; and they are now employed only for parade, or as beasts of burden, which in the warmer climates are peculiarly commodious; and where provender can be found in abundance, extremely useful attendants of an army. During the war just now concluded with Tippoo Saib, lord Cornwallis employed elephants for transporting his artillery up the Gauts, without which, I have been assured, he would have found great difficulty in accomplishing the object of his wishes.

The elephant is a huge, unwieldy, uncouth looking animal, which, if we had not been acquainted with its rare qualities, all mankind would have called ugly. Its immense ears, its huge tusks, its flexible proboscis, which may be writhed into an infinite variety of forms, its thick clumsy legs, and small eyes, all contribute to render this animal a striking object to those who behold it, even independent of its size; but when taken altogether, it is so unlike to what we call elegant in other creatures, that it could only have been viewed as an object of terror or disgust.

The works of God are wonderfully varied; and the same objects are attained by means so very dissimilar, as to afford a perpetual source of wonder and of admiration to the contemplative mind. The power of animals, in a good measure, depends on the struc-

ture of those members of the body they can employ as tools for effecting its purposes; and it has long ago been justly observed, that the *human hand* is a tool of the most admirable construction, which, under the guidance of reason, has enabled man to effect those wonderful things he has atchieved. The paw of the lion, and others of the cat kind, which admits of being expanded and contracted like the human hand, gives to these animals a tremendous power, which is exerted for no other purpose but to destroy. The trunk, or proboscis, of the elephant, is a member, which, to all appearance, could be of little use for grasping small objects, or effecting any useful purpose; yet it is so admirably constructed, by means of flexible cartilages and muscles, and is endowed at the same time with such sensibility and strength, as to be capable of being employed for many uses, that we could not, without experience, have believed possible. With its point it can grasp even very small objects, with wonderful pliability; and by its power of being contracted or dilated, turned upwards or downwards, or in any other direction, at will, it is capable of being employed by that animal for much the same purposes as the human hand by man; and what seems still more extraordinary, notwithstanding its great flexibility and sensibility, it is so little susceptible of pain in that member, that it is employed as a tool for striking and chastising any object of its resentment with great force, so as to be used instead of a rod of correction for most purposes.

Though the elephant be easily tamed, and contracts a great familiarity and kindneſs for man, it can never be ſo thoroughly domeſticated as to procreate while in confinement. All thoſe that have ever been under the dominion of man have been bred in the deſart, and catched by art. The various devices that have been employed for catching them, have been ſo often re-told, in books of various deſcriptions, that it is needleſs to repeat them here. The tame elephants themſelves have been found to be at all times the beſt agents for ſubduing the wild ones when firſt caught.

The elephant is a native of Aſia and Africa, and is not to be found in its natural ſtate either in Europe or America. From the river Senegal to the Cape of Good Hope, they are met with in great numbers. In this extenſive region, as they are more numerous than in any other part of the world, ſo are they leſs fearful of man. The ſavage inhabitants of this dreary country, inſtead of attempting to ſubdue this powerful animal, and rendering it ſubſervient to their neceſſities, ſeem only deſirous of avoiding its fury. In the internal parts of the country, which are uninhabited by man, they are found in large herds; but theſe are only at times ſeen by a few perſons who venture a little into thoſe inhoſpitable regions. Along the coaſts, eſpecially near the European ſettlements, few are to be ſeen; but the inhabitants there, allured by the gain they make by their tuſks, are now become extremely expert in ſhooting them, and frequently make excurſions into the interior parts of the country, for the

sake of hunting such stragglers from the herd as may chance to fall in their way; but in this kind of enterprise the hunters run great risks, and are therefore obliged to act with much caution. In approaching this animal, great care must be taken to steal upon him unperceived. If the elephant discover his enemy near, he rushes out, and endeavours to kill him. One of these hunters being out upon a plain, under the shelter of a few scattered thorn trees, thought he could be able to advance near enough to shoot an elephant that was at a little distance from him; but he was discovered, pursued, and overtaken by the animal, which laid hold of him with his trunk, and beat him instantly to death. It is peculiarly dangerous to attack a female elephant while its young is along with it; for the affection between the parent and the young is so strong and reciprocal, that unless they be both killed, there is no safety; for the survivor will never desert its fallen companion, but assail the enemies with the utmost fury, till either itself or the hunters be killed. Mr Bruce relates a combat of this sort, in which the dam was shot at the first by the hunters, and though the young was so small as not to exceed the size of an ass, and had run away at first from fear; yet on seeing its dam fall, it returned, and attacked the hunters with the utmost fury, until it was at length shot dead by them.

The height of the elephant at the Cape, is from twelve to fifteen feet. The female is less than the male, and her tusks do not grow to such a size.

The largest tuſks weigh an hundred and fifty pounds, and are usually sold to the governor of the Cape, at the rate of a guilder *per* pound; so that a man may earn three hundred guilders at one ſhot; a strong inducement for running some riſk. The tuſk is the only part of the elephant that is productive of profit to the hunter.

The eyes of the elephant are small; but they are lively, brilliant, and capable of great expreſsion. His ears are large, and much longer in proportion to his body than those of the aſs; they lie flat on the head, and are commonly pendulous; but he can raise and move them with great facility, and frequently uses them as a fan to cool himself. His hearing likewise is remarkably fine; for he delights in the sound of musical instruments, and moves in cadence to the trumpet and tabor. There are four grinders in each jaw, closely united together, forming with the jaw bone one hard and compact body. The texture of the ſkin is uneven, wrinkled, and knotty; full of deep fiſsures, resembling the bark of an old oak tree, which run in all directions over its surface. It is of a deep tawny colour, approaching to black; the inside of the ear is of a faint fleſh colour. The legs resemble maſsy columns of fifteen or eighteen inches in diameter, and not exceeding four or five feet in height. The foot is ſhort, and divided into five toes, covered with the ſkin so as not be visible. To each toe there is affixed a nail or a hoof of a horny substance.

The trunk, or proboscis, is composed of membranes, nerves, and muscles; and is both an organ

of feeling and of motion. The animal can not only move and bend it, but can contract, lengthen, and turn it in every direction. The extremity of the trunk terminates in a protuberance, which stretches out in the form of a finger, and poſſeſſes in a great degree the niceneſs and dexterity of that useful member. It is equally flexible, and as capable of laying hold of objects as the fingers of a man. With it he lifts from the ground the smallest piece of money; he selects herbs and flowers, and picks them up one by one; he unties the knots of ropes, opens and ſhuts gates, *&c.* With his trunk he grasps any body which it is applied to so firmly, that no force can tear it from his gripe. It is eight feet long in an elephant of fourteen feet high, and five feet in circumference at the thickest part. The nostrils are situated at the extremity; through which it draws in water by a strong suction, either for the purpose of quenching its thirst, or of waſhing and cooling itself, which it frequently does by taking a large quantity, part of which it carries to its mouth and drinks, and by elevating its trunk, allows the remainder to run over every part of its body. The mouth is situated directly under the trunk, from each side of which, project upwards, the two large tuſks which are so valuable on account of the ivory, of which substance they entirely consist.

Roots, herbs, leaves, and tender wood, are the ordinary food of the elephant. He does not ruminate, and has but one stomach; this want however is amply supplied by the magnitude and length of his

intestines, and particularly of the colon, which is from fifteen to twenty feet in length, and two or three in diameter. When one of them discovers a plentiful pasture, he calls to the others, and invites them to partake. As they require a great quantity of forage, they frequently change their pastures, and do incredible damage wherever they stray into cultivated grounds. On these occasions it is difficult to drive them off. They go in herds, nor is it easy to separate them. They generally act in concert, whether they attack, march, or fly.

The ordinary walk of the elephant is not quicker than that of a horse; but when puſhed he aſsumes a kind of ambling pace, which in fleetneſs is equal to a gallop. He goes forward with ease; but it is with great difficulty he turns himself round; and that not without taking a large circuit. It is generally in narrow and hollow places that the negroes attack him, and cut off his tail, which they value above every other part of his body. He swims well, and is of great use in carrying baggage acroſs large rivers. When swimming he raises his long trunk above the surface of the water for the sake of respiration, every other part of his body being below. In this manner several of these animals swim together, and steer their course without danger of running foul of each other.

The elephant when tamed is gentle, obedient, and docile; patient of labour, and so attentive to the command of its governor, that a word or a look is sufficient to stimulate it to the most violent exertions. In India, where they were once employed in

launching ſhips, one of them was directed to force a large veſsel into the water, which proving superior to its strength, the master in an angry tone cried out, "Take away that lazy beast, and bring another in its place;" the poor animal instantly redoubled its efforts, fractured its ſkull, and died upon the spot.

The conductor of the elephant is usually mounted upon its neck; and sometimes makes use of a rod of iron ſharpened at the end, with which he urges the animal forward; but usually his voice alone is sufficient for that purpose. Its attachment to its keeper is very great; it knows his voice; it receives his orders with attention, and executes them with eagerneſs, but without precipitation. All its motions are orderly, and seem to correspond with the dignity of its appearance, being grave, majestic, and cautious. It kneels down for the accommodation of those who mount upon its back, and its pliant trunk even aſsists them to ascend. It suffers itself to be harneſsed, and seems to have a pleasure in the finery of its trappings. They are now used chiefly for the purpoſes of labour or magnificent parade.

The Indian princes in their travels are attended by hundreds of these animals. Some are employed to convey the ladies which compose the seraglio in latticed cages made for that purpose, and covered with branches of trees; whilst others transport immense quantities of baggage, with which the sovereigns of the east are always accompanied in their marches from one place to another. They are likewise made use of as the dreadful instruments of ex-

ecuting condemned criminals; a task which they perform with great dexterity. At the word of command they break the limbs of the criminal with their trunks; they sometimes trample him to death, or impale him on their enormous tusks, just as they are directed by their more barbarous keeper.

Sometimes the elephant is employed like the ancient gladiators at Rome, to fight with wild beasts in the Arena, for the purpose of affording amusement to a luxurious court. The figure which is prefixed to this article represents a combat of this sort between an elephant and two tigers, copied from an Indian painting in the poſſeſsion of Gilbert Innes of Stow, esq. which I am aſsured is a faithful and spirited representation of that favourite amusement, that is at present very common at the courts of India in seasons of great rejoicing. Two strong tigers are usually deemed a match for an elephant, and the mode of attack of both animals is here very naturally characterised.

The time of the gestation of the elephant is hitherto but imperfectly known. Aristotle says it goes two years with young; which is the more likely, as the season of desire, in the male, returns but once in three years. The female produces but one young at a time. The young elephants are said to suck with their trunk, the teats of the female being situated between the fore legs.

The elephant is thirty years in arriving at its full growth; and is said to live, even in a state of captivity, to the age of an hundred and twenty, or an

hundred and thirty years. In a state of freedom it is supposed to live much longer.

The elephant will drink wine, and is fond of spirituous liquors. By ſhewing him a veſsel filled with arrack he is induced to exert the greatest efforts, and perform the most painful taſks, in hopes of receiving it as a reward of his labour. To disappoint him is dangerous, as he seldom fails to be revenged. The following instance is given as a fact, and deserves to be recorded. An elephant, disappointed of its reward, out of revenge killed his *cornac* or governor. The poor man's wife, who beheld the dreadful scene, took her two infants and threw them at the feet of the enraged animal, saying, "Since you have slain my huſband take my life also as well as that of my children." The elephant instantly stopped, relented, and, as if stung with remorse, took the eldest boy in its trunk, placed him on its neck, adopted him for its cornac, and would never allow any other person to mount it.

Many other facts, equally curious and interesting, might be quoted respecting this singular animal; but those already cited are sufficient to ſhow that the elephant is poſseſsed of faculties superior to those of any other animal. We must at the same time admire the beneficent order of that dispensation, which to an animal of such unequalled powers has added a disposition so mild and tractable. What ravages might we not expect from the prodigious strength of the elephant if combined with the fierceneſs and rapacity of the tiger!

FRAGMENTS OF LORD BACON.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 122.

* * * * CERTAINLY *custome* is most perfect when it beginneth in young years.

All the principia or seminal germs of our faculties, and propenseneſs to vertue or vice, are contained in the infant mind; and it is by *educatio*, or *the drawing out* of those that are good and useful, that man is perfected, and is made to be useful and happy.

In mere babes we see a wonderful desire of acting and stirring, which if a sound state of body continueth, increaseth continually in what relateth to the satisfaction of curiosity, a principle in our nature which with the power of reflex contemplation and comparison of thoughts, seemeth to be the great charter of the pre-eminence of man over the beasts of the field.

The grand canon therefore in the art of life, next to the preservation of health, must be, "*that by obtaining and preserving the habits of industry, the grand evils of the world are either leſsened, or altogether evited.*

Let this be dilligently noted by parents and others who have the care of humane offspring. For late learners cannot so well take the plie, except it be in some minds that have not suffered themselves to fix, but have kept themselves open and

prepared to receive continuall amendment, which is exceeding rare.

But if the force of *custome*, simple and separate, be great, the force of *custome, copulate*, and conjoyned, and collegiate, is far greater; for *there* example teacheth, company comforteth, emulation quickeneth, glory raiseth, so as in such places the force of *custome* is in his exaltation. Certainly the great multiplication of vertues upon humane nature resteth upon societies well ordained and disciplined. For commonwealths and good governments doe nourish vertue grown, but doe not much mend the seeds. But the miserie is, that the most effectuall means are now applied to the end least to be desired.

Now this second rule of our art of life is to be applied, as in the art of a cunning husbandman or horticulturist in fostering the seeds of useful industry, and eradicating the filthy weeds of idleness.

Most part of men are early placed in the trammels of a trade or business, so that they need not to grope about for a choice of daily function, yet there are daily and continuall allurements to idleness, so that it behoves a man to stand like a watchful sentry against this dangerous enemy. Vacant hours employed in the pursuit of some pleasing study that is *somehow connected with excellency in his particular profession*, is what was greatly recommended by Erasmus, and is good for men that are able to reach it.

Innocent recreations of archery or the like, that chear the spirits without hurting the mind, and

that strengthen the bodie, are fitter for men of low degree; and in all cases it is good to provide remedies against the irritating occurrences of mutable fortune.

Some men's fortunes indeed are like Homer's verses, that have a slide and easinefs more than others, but all ought to provide against that which is the usual lot of humanity.

The best sailors are made on the rockiest fhores, and the faculties of men are best improved by frequent danger.

The fox hath become the most cunning of animals as being continually exposed to the greatest number of enemies.

Let a man therefore dilligently perfect himself in this grand part of the art of life, adding daily to the strength of his industrious habits.

In this also hee will find vertue, as in other cases, its own reward.

For it is in the dislocation of the powers of the understanding and imagination, that mental misery consisteth, and man is always happy when the spirits have an easy flow, and when hee is in pursuit of something pleasing which hee thinketh hee may obtain.

Now a man in that state is not only easy and happy in himself, but he is agreeable also to others, and particularly to his family and companions; for he will not be exposed to lie heavy upon the enjoyments of other men, or meddle injuriously with their particulars.

When hee cometh to his own fireside, he will be in good humour with his wife and his family, *especially if they are also busy in their own respective situations.*

Hee will cast a cheerful look around him wheresoever hee goeth, and bee kind to his fellows, because hee is at peace with himself. About a good man in such a state there is an atmosphere of contentment and cheerfulnefs that is the sweetest air a man can desire to breathe in; *and women will delight in him*, for hee may give them pleasure without trouble or contradiction, and hee will say pleasing things to them, which charmeth and holdeth all the daughters of Eva.

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* * * * Although their thoughts may seem too severe who think that few ill natured men goe to Heaven; yet it must be acknowledged that good natured persons are best founded for that place; especially as it is certainly a very mistaken conceit that we fhall have nothing to do in the mansions of eternity with the social vertues, since Heaven is expreſsly called the city of God.

Now a city pre-eminently expreſses what is social.

But whatever succefs they may have as to Heaven, they are the acceptable men on earth; and happy is hee who hath his quiver full of them for his friends.

Theſe are not the dens wherein falsehood lurks, and hypocrisy hides its head; wherein frowardnefs makes its nest, or where malice, hard heartedneſs,

and oppreſsion love to dwell; but such as carry their hearts in their countenances, and need not be scrutinized, who make not only the best friends, but the most generous enemies.

Of the Roman emperors and other potentates, the best were *the busiest* and *best natured*; witneſs Trajan, Titus, and Marcus Aurelius; those pretious elohims of the earth, whose number is so small that they might be all written in the posey of a gold ring.

I remember to have been present at the last advices and injunctions given by a wise and honourable man to his son and heir, then just entering into the tempestuous conflicts of life, and they made upon my mind so deep an impreſsion, that I shall endeavour to set them down in this place.

The wife, the family, and servants of the good old man being present, he raised himself up upon his death bed, and he spake thus, with clear but feeble accents:

Advice of a father to his son.

"My son, I have trained thee up in the habits of industry and vertue. Continue to live happy in the elizium of a vertuously composed mind; and let intellectual contentments still hold the first place over those that are sensual.

"Keep a tight rein upon the wild horses of Plato, that they may not carry you aside from your celestial journey:—thus much to thee as a scholar. But now, as unto a poor fallible creature, I must tell thee, (with the desire of edifying all here present as well as thyself,) that without being constantly

employed, it is hard, if not impoſsible, to be worthy.

"Make amuſements your recreations, or intermiſsive relaxations, and not your life and profeſsion. Tranquillity is better than jollity, and to avoid and appeaſe pain is better than to invent new pleaſure.

"Our hard entrance into the world, our miſerable going out of it, our ſickneſses, diſturbances, and ſad rencounters in it, doe all clamourously tell us wee come not into the world to run a race of delight, but to perform the ſober acts and ſerious purpoſes of man and citizen, which to omit were foully to miſcarry in the advantage of humanity, and to play away the noble ſtake of life which can never be renewed.

"Standing upon the narrow iſthmus of life look forward to the boundleſs ocean of eternity, and remember, that "*non mutant animos qui trans mare currunt*;" that is, as *the tree falls ſee ſhall it lye*. Think not that it bee poſsible for a refined ſpiritual nature to bee extinct by the diſsolution of the body which it animated. That which is thus once alive, will in ſome way be always, *except it deſtroyeth itſelf*; and let me warn thee, that by plunging the celeſtial matter, as it may be figured, of the ſoul, in the groſsneſs of ſenſuality, *it may be finally and utterly deſtroyed*, or become a veſsel (as the apoſtle ſayeth,) fitted for deſtruction.

"Confirm thyſelf therefore my ſon, and may all here preſent confirm themſelves in the habits of *induſtry* and *benevolence*, and by ſtudying *the true art of life*, prepare themſelves for a peaceful and happy departure!"

ON REVENUE LAWS.

For the Bee.

Continued from p. 94.

HAVING already, I am afraid, availed myself too freely of the indulgence of the Editor of the Bee, in laying before the public a series of eſsays, which, though on an important subject, are very uninteresting to many readers, I ſhall now only beg permiſsion to conclude my observations, by pointing out the manner in which high excise duties on articles of home manufacture occasion that great oppreſsion of which the people so universally complain.

It is not by the amount of the money paid, that taxes can, in a nation so wealthy as this, produce any material hardſhip; because it ultimately comes out of the pockets of the wealthy inhabitants of the country; and the labouring people receive wages in proportion to the prices of the articles neceſsarily consumed by them, which are affected by the taxes. But the evils that arise in society from high taxes are occasioned by their being injudiciously laid on; and the numerous fiscal regulations that become neceſsary for levying them.

We have examined, in my last eſsay, p. 91, some of the hardſhips that accrue to traders in conſequence of the neceſsary regulations for the prevention of smuggling in cases of high duties being imposed. Hardſhips of the same nature, as the reader will readily perceive, are felt by manufacturers in a much stronger degree; their

operations being much more numerous and complicated than those of the merchant. The general principle of this is easily seen; and it is unnecessary here to descend to particulars, as in that case we would be obliged to treat of each manufacture separately; we shall therefore proceed to the other branch of the subject, *viz.* the evils arising to the community from smuggling in consequence of high excise duties.

It is almost unnecessary to mention, that experience has proven the impossibility of preventing smuggling when exorbitant duties are payable; and it is a curious fact that the smuggling itself brings about, in many cases, the ruin of the practitioners of it, even although they should never be detected nor fined, nor have goods seized. It is by smuggling alone that all the evils so loudly complained of in our end of the island are occasioned; and from it alone has arisen the ruin of so many manufactures and manufacturers since the extension of the excise laws, particularly brewers, soap boilers, and starch-makers.

The manner in which these distressing circumstances are brought about is as follows: two starch-makers, for example, carry on each a great business, by which they draw a handsome income, and live with their families in affluence and splendour. The duty paid on the starch is above one half of the gross price at which it is sold, and of course, if even a small part of that duty can be evaded, it will be a very great acquisition to the person who brings that about. This is a great inducement to these manufacturers to employ all their ingenuity in contriving the means of

smuggling; in which we ſhall ſuppoſe one of them at length ſucceeds ſo far as to be able to manufacture one-tenth part of his ſtarch free of duty, by which he draws ten *per cent.* more profit than his neighbour and rival. Having come thus far, he finds that if he reduces his price five *per cent.* he may ſell three times as much ſtarch as he would do at the old price; his neighbour not being able, for want of ſmuggling, to hold forth ſuch good terms to the public: He does ſo. The other is obliged to reduce his price alſo, as he would otherwiſe meet with no cuſtomers, and be obliged to give up buſineſs; by which means he carries on a loſing manufacture for a year, endeavouring all that time, by cheating the crown, to re-eſtabliſh his former profits. At length he alſo finds out a method of ſmuggling, by which he is enabled to make his goods twenty *per cent.* cheaper than formerly; he immediately reduces his price ſtill farther, and the one who firſt ſucceeded in the enterprize is now in the ſame ſituation as he had put his neighbour by his avaricious conduct. Whilſt things are going on in this manner, the price in general being reduced below what manufacturers in another part of the country, where the opportunities of ſmuggling are perhaps not ſo favourable, can afford to compete with, they are obliged to give up their buſineſs, and throw their induſtrious workmen helpleſs and unemployed into the world; whilſt they themſelves, if not already ruined by a fruitleſs competition with their ſmuggling brethren, muſt turn their capitals and their attention into ſome other line of employment, in which they are

not so well versed as in their former once thriving business; and the consequence is often great loss, bankruptcy, and ruin.

To return to the two competitors in smuggling: They find that by being each of them occasionally undersold, their profits are on the whole much reduced,—perhaps entirely so; and in place of them loss appears on their books. They have been frequently each of them detected by the revenue officers in their illicit practices, and fined in great sums: Their capital is thus reduced: Their families, which were at the beginning accustomed to live in luxury, and their children educated with the lofty expectation of wealth, in consequence of the dazzling prospect of great gains from their extended trade, are now as expensive as ever. They find themselves burdened with a great stock of utensils, which have been increased and altered on every favourable fluctuation of the state of their trade. In this situation they know not how to turn themselves: their credit is good; they see an evident downfal in the world if they give up business; and they look with a blind fancifulness on the possibility of things altering for the better,—continue their business,—continue to lose,—are brought into embarrassments,—come at last to an ignominious bankruptcy, and linger out the remainder of their days in miserable poverty and reproach.

Every person who has resided in Scotland of late, and been attentive to matters of that sort, must be sensible of the truth of the picture I have drawn; but I believe few attribute the fatal effects to the real

cause, *smuggling*; and as long as the high duties at present payable on many articles remain, that pernicious smuggling will continue in spight of all the regulations, oppresive or otherwise, that can be made.

For a farther illustration of this subject, and its application to brewery, I refer the curious reader to a pamphlet published in Edinburgh in the year 1791, of which a review is given in the Bee, vol. iv. p. 183. It contains not only a view of the bad tendency of the high taxes, but also of the bad management of many of the officers of the revenue; and I have not heard of any of the facts therein stated having been contradicted either in public or private, though I believe their publication has had the effect of producing a considerable improvement in the execution of that branch of the revenue laws. But no radical improvement in this respect can ever be made, until our legislators shall be fully convinced of the cruelty and impolicy of loading any branch of manufacture with exorbitant duties, so as to abandon entirely that pernicious system of legislation, which has but too long prevailed in this country,—the only real grievance that I can see the industrious people have reason to complain of. A reform in this respect would be attended with the most beneficial effects, and would reflect much honour on the minister who should first patronise it. On this branch of the subject I could extend my observations to a great length, but having already experienced a great share of indulgence from you I must not farther transgress.

Leith, January 1793. TRADER POLITICAL.

THE MISANTHROPE.

THOUGH a man of sense, and a man of vanity, is a seeming contradiction, yet by a certain modification of the disposition, and some collateral circumstances, such characters really exist. These form the true misanthrope. The misanthrope is originally a vain character. He fancies himself to posſeſs qualifications which nobody else can perceive. He thinks he deserves esteem for these qualifications, and but very few respect him. At his first setting out in the world, his conceit and vanity procure him enemies. As he advances, he grows sour and morose. The gloomy side of things is always the first to present itself; and he is troubled with dubiety and anxiety till events are over. Mankind soon perceive his propensities, and despise him; while he on the other hand detests the race, lives discontented, and dies unlamented.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

A MEAN and sordid soul will produce mean actions, though it animates the person of a prince; and a great mind will scorn either *aſsuming* or *cringing*, though it inhabit the body of a scullion.

Among the uncertainties of the human state, we are doomed to number the instability of friendſhip!

APRIL.

Solvitur acris hyems grata vice veris et Favoni:
Trahuntque siccas machinæ carinas;
Ac neque jam stabulis gaudet pecus, aut arator igne;
Nec prata canis albicant pruinis. HORACE.

Now blooming April's come in lovely hue,
And hoary winter's now spent all his ire,
Save that at ev'n he sometimes doe renew
Th' unequal fight, and lights the vaulted fire.

With ice, the piercing blast, and howling storm,
The wintry pastimes now away are fled;
Away those chequer'd scenes which once did form
The joy of youth, tho' mix'd with latent dread.

Th' accumulating snowballs now no more
Along the hoary ground by youth are roll'd;
Nor is the schoolboy seen as oft before,
To whip his whirling top with fingers cold.

No person now the curling stone does throw,
Nor do boys glide along the glassy plain;
No nimble skaters drawn up in a row,
Their skill exert, shouts of applause to gain.

The river swell'd with copious rills, does flow
With force impetuous thro' the chequer'd vale;
Nor are it's sides pent in with ice and snow,
Nor does its murmur in its frozen cell.

Pleas'd nature now her frowns aside does lay,
And o'er her face assumes a wreathed smile;
Ev'n at this time, how pleasant 'tis to stray
Along the fields, clad in their humble stile.

Already do the trees their leaves expand,
The birds chear with their notes the early dawn;
And nature's carpet, shortly will demand
The gentle foot, spread out upon the lawn.

Now is the time for him who loves to muse,
Abroad to wander in the sunny vale,
While yet the springing herbs do sip the dews,
And birds with matin song delight the dale.

There let him stray, indulging serious thought,
And let him, when in nature's book he reads,
Think on the winter drear that's with death brought,
And on the spring eternal that succeeds.

Banks of Etrick,
March 29. 1793. PROTEUS.

ANACREONTIC.

For the Bee.

I FAIN would strike a louder string,
Of arms and martial feats would sing;
How Wolf subdued the Gallic pride,
And like the conqu'ring Theban died.
How foremost in the ranks of war,
The sword of Scotland flam'd afar;
Dealt wild destruction to the foe,
And laid the howling Indian low:
From Pindus', from Castalia's streams,
Deep read in forms, [illegible]rn'd in names;
I bid the muse a[illegible],
And build the [illegible] rhime;
But forms and long learn'd words are vain,
Harsh and uncouth the stubborn strain;
But when I sing the pow'r of love,
Soft melody delights the grove;
Fragrant blooming flow'rs arise,
Breathing incense to the skies;
Soft as evening zephyrs blow,
The ambling easy numbers flow;
And by this proof convinc'd I see,
O love I have no muse but thee!

A. L.

SONNET.

For the Bee.

As he who wand'ring o'er the dreary waste
Of parch'd Arabia's wide extended plains,
At the black clouds that bode the coming blast,
Appal'd, feels sudden horror freeze his veins.

Should he, perchance, descry some happier isle,
Where all is peace the howling fiends among,
Hies him where painted landscape [illegible]mile,
List'ning with rapture to the [illegible]ng.

Such is thy voice, O friendship! to his ear!
Who long has wander'd in affliction's way.
Who, while misfortune's clouds around him roll,
Has watch'd in vain sweet pleasure's tardy ray;

Thy heavenly voice can ev'ry charm restore,
Dispels misfortune's gloom, and bids him sigh no more.

ASCANIUS ALTER.

Origin of the Priory of the Two Lovers.

In the twelfth century lived one of those titled barbarians who prided themselves in that prerogative of impunity which was one of the characteristics of the feudal government, and which was indeed quite worthy of such a system. The sole delight of this haughty baron seemed to be in frequent and capricious displays of savage despotism. He was continually conceiving the most absurd ideas of amusement; and his gothic imagination ever selected that which bordered most on the ferociousnefs of credulity. To a brutal rage for singularity, like this, we may doubtlefs trace the origin of those whimsical services that were appendant to our ancient fiefs, and which the enlightened legislatures of modern times ought universally to eradicate.

Our baron was happy in all those extravagant freaks in which high birth and unbounded riches could enable him to indulge. An only daughter he had, named Genevieve, whom the chronicles of those times have handed down to us as a paragon of beauty. It may be imagined, in course, that a crowd of rivals contended for the honour and happinefs of her hand. Nor can we suppose the peerlefs Genevieve herself unsusceptible of the tender paſsion. Baldwin, a young chevalier in the neighbourhood, had certainly no reason to doubt it. Amiable he was, and amiable did he appear in the eyes of the charming maid.

Ardent and reciprocal was the paſsion they cherifhed. His, however, the young chevalier studiously concealed from every eye. His patrimony was too slender to encourage aspiring hopes, and in conjugal alliances does in-

terest too often preside with fatal sway.—Through no other medium did the father of Genevieve view her lover. To a thousand exalted qualities, the liberal gifts of nature, he was totally insensible.

Baldwin was convinced then, that he never could be the husband of the beautiful Genevieve. But does love ever reason? He listens—he attends only to the tender sentiment, and no obstacle does that sentiment perceive. Has love then sufficient resources in himself?—Every day the tenderness of the two lovers increased; and increasing it seemed to become irresistible.

The baron is not long unacquainted with their mutual passion. He surprises the young chevalier with his daughter. He could perceive the ingenuous frankness of modesty in the one, with ardour and inexpressible extacy in the other. In the first suggestions of fury, he would have sacrificed Baldwin to immediate vengeance. Genevieve throws herself at her father's feet; she bedews them with her tears; "I will not survive him! (cries the beauteous maid:) save him, my father hurt him not, or I die with him—I perish on the spot!"—The old baron was not unaffected by her tears; yet still his savage temper had the ascendant. Pointing to a hill near his castle, "Young man, (said he,) you have been presumptuous enough to think one moment of my daughter. Nevertheless she shall be your wife, if you will carry her, without stopping, to the top of yonder hill; but the least repose shall cost you the prize."—The chevalier does not suffer him to finish. He flies to his mistress, takes her in his arms, and runs towards the hill, exclaiming, "You shall be mine! you *shall* be mine!"—A crowd of vassals assisted at a scene that was at once so barbarous and so singular.

Love has very justly been painted with a bandage over his eyes. Baldwin, in the exceſsive ardour of his paſsion, had not perceived the extreme difficulty of his undertaking. His eyes,—his whole soul was fixed upon Genevieve.

He ascended the hill with inconceivable swiftneſs; he had wings; he felt the heart of his mistreſs palpitate against his own. "I tremble, my dear friend! (said ſhe,) you will not reach, you will not reach the top;——moderate your impetuosity."

"Fear nothing, fear nothing, my adorable Genevieve! You know not the power of love. I could reach, I could gain the ſkies!"

The whole aſsembly utter vows to heaven for the amiable pair. In a thousand ways they expreſs their encouraging approbation. But the lover's strength begins to fail—he perceives it himself. "My dear, dear Genevieve! speak to me; repeat to me, repeat that you love me. Fix your eyes on mine,—yes! I ſhall feel more than mortal powers—you revive me—you strengthen me again."

Nature, however, abandons him. Love is now his only support, and what cannot love atchieve? Baldwin now looks toward the summit of the hill, and measures it with his eyes, which he had not done before.

"Ah! is it not very high?" said his (terrified mistreſs.

"I ſhall reach it—I *ſhall* reach it."

How justly has it been observed that love is capable of performing miracles! Baldwin, indeed, was no longer a man. It was the genius of love that triumphed over insurmountable obstacles. The cries of the spectators resounded on every side. They trembled, they mounted, they panted with the young chevalier, who was now intently

regarding the summit, as the period of his efforts. The admiring multitude did not fail to observe all his motions. They saw every member working, struggling, vanquishing fatigue. Genevieve, the beauteous Genevieve! was weeping.

At length, the happy chevalier gains th ght. He instantly sinks with his precious burden on the earth, which he seems to embrace as the monument of his victory. A man of letters would here mention Cæsar, who embraced the earth in like manner; "and for an object of far less consequence," would add some enamoured lover. Acclamations of joy arise, "Baldwin is victor—Baldwin has gained the prize!" "My friend, my beloved! (exclaims Genevieve,) will now be my husband." She threw herself on his bosom—she lavishes the most tender expressions; her lover answers not—his eyes are closed—he is motionless: "Oh! heavens! (cries Genevieve,) "he is dead—Baldwin, my Baldwin is dead!"

The young conqueror had sunk under his fatigue. "He is dead, he his dead!" mournfully passed from mouth to mouth. Consternation is visible in every countenance. The eyes, the looks of all are fixed on the fatal summit.

Genevieve, weeping, presses her lover to her bosom; she strives to recall him to life. Her kisses, her tears revive the chevalier; he opens an almost lifeless eye: with a faultering voice he can only utter, "I die, Genevieve.—Let them give me at least the name of thy husband on my tomb; the sweet idea consoles me; Oh! my only love, receive my last sigh."

The spectators, who did not a moment lose sight of Genevieve, had been restored with her to hope. They had easily understood that Baldwin had revived. They

now as easily perceived that it was only a rapid flash of hope. They were convinced of it by the dreadful shriek with which Genevieve again uttered, "He is dead, he is dead!" In a moment, they saw her sink on her lover's corpse.

The inhuman baron is now agitated by all the terror of paternal love. He flies to the hill. The crowd hastily follow him. They gain the summit. They find Genevieve, with her two stiffened arms, embracing the unfortunate Baldwin. In vain would her wretched father revive her.—Genevieve, Genevieve herself was now no more.

All the people loaded with reproaches the barbarian, who in vain prefsed his daughter to his bosom. They raise the two bodies, they place them weeping, in the coffin. Piety did not fail to consecrate the sentiments of nature and compafsion. A chapel was built on the fatal spot; and the father, desiring in some measure to expiate his fault, erected a tomb, in which he ordered that those whom he would have separated in life, fhould be united in death.—This place, as we have before observed, has ever since been called by a name that will perpetuate their melancholy story. "The priory of the two lovers."

Unfeeling fathers, henceforth learn to know,
The sad effects which from your folly flow;
Let this sad tale your gothic souls reclaim,
And turn your thoughts to virtue and to fame.

ANECDOTES.

Upon the dollars, stivers, and doits, coined at *Dordrecht* in *Holland*, is the figure of a milk maid sitting under her cow, which figure is also exhibited in relievo on the water gate. The occasion was as follows; In the noble

struggle of the *United Provinces* for their liberties, the *Spaniards* detached a body of forces from the main army, with the view of surprizing the town. Certain milk maid's belonging to a rich farmer in the vicinity, perceived, as they were going to milk, some soldiers concealed under the hedges. They had presence of mind to pursue their occupation without any symptoms of alarm. On their return, they informed the authority of what they had discovered. The sluices were immediately let loose, the *Spaniards* drowned, and the expedition defeated. The states then recompensed the girls, and perpetuated the memory of this event as above mentioned.

In a war between the French and Spaniards in Flanders, a soldier being ill treated by a general officer, and struck several times with a cane, said coolly that the officer should soon repent of it. A short time after, the same officer commissioned the colonel of the trenches to send him out a bold fellow, who for a reward would undertake a dangerous piece of work. The soldier mentioned offered his service; and taking with him thirty of his comrades, performed the work with success. The officer highly commended him, and gave him an hundred pistoles, the reward promised. The soldier, after distributing them among his comrades, turned to the officer and said, "I am, Sir, the soldier you abused fifteen days ago, and I told you that you would repent it." The officer melted into tears, threw his arms around the soldier's neck, begged his pardon, and gave him a commission that very day.

A CORRECTION.

In page 199 the colour of the elephant is said to be a deep brown approaching to black. This is rather inaccurately expressed. The skin itself is of an ash grey colour. The hairs dark, nearly black. At certain seasons, and in certain habits of body, the hairs that cover the skin are more or less numerous. Sometimes it is nearly naked, when it appears of a grey colour. Sometimes the hair nearly covers the whole skin, when it seems black.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17. 1793.

LUCUBRATIONS OF TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

News from the kingdom of Utopia.

WELL Mr Printer, being just returned from one of those excursions which is my greatest solace in this life, I make haste to pay my respects to your Editorial Worſhip, and hope you will welcome me to my native place again: for I can aſsure you, that in all my travels, the benefitting this little ſpot of ours is the ultimate object of my wiſhes.

But before I proceed to give you a detail of the obſervations I have made, and the opinions I have formed in the course of these my peregrinations, it is fit I ſhould give you some account of the way in which I have been enabled to perform such extenſive journeys as you ſhall soon hear of; leſt you ſhould doubt my veracity; which would be a grievous disappointment to me.

Although I have not made any demands on you of late, of a *pecuniary* nature, yet you are not from thence to conclude that I am become wealthy, in

the general acceptation of that word;—far from it. My pockets are nearly as empty as those of old Diogenes: yet, like him, I contrive too to enjoy a little of the sunshine of life; and as nothing contributes so much to my ease and content as travelling, I am sure to set out on an expedition, whenever I feel myself uneasy in any respect; and I never fail to return as cheerful and contented as you could wish. But as my purse cannot afford to pay for chaise hire, and as even horses in these dear times, are by far too expensive for my keeping, I have contrived to travel in a much more expeditious, as well as a less expensive and much more commodious manner, in a vehicle called an ELBOW CHAIR, which has been on many former occasions employed by others like myself in very extensive peregrinations.

The country I have thus visited is one of the most delightful that can be conceived. It does not, like Palestine, abound with milk and honey only, but it possesses an infinity of other blessings which can be found in no other part of the world. Its women are all beautiful, virtuous, and wise; its men are learned, temperate, humane; its birds are all harmonious, and beasts innocent. This inchanting country was first visited in modern times by Sir Thomas More, who called it UTOPIA; and the learned Bacon afterwards undertook a voyage to the same country, under the name of the ISLAND OF SOLOMON. It had certainly, however, been known of old by some of the Jewish prophets, who describe it in exact terms, when they represent the men as sitting in a state of perpetual peace, each under

the ſhade of his own fig tree, and eating the fruit of his own vine; the wolf and the lamb playing together, and the innocent child putting his hand in ſafety into the cockatrice den; for it is in that happy country alone, that phenomena of this ſort are ever experienced. The ancient Scandinavians too ſeem to have been well acquainted with it, which they have clearly described under the name of FLATH-INNIS. Plato also paid this delightful country a visit, under the name of the FORTUNATE ISLANDS. The garden of the Hesperides too is but a faint description of the same; from which Homer borrowed some of the traits in his description of the gardens of Alcinuous. These notices will I hope convince both you and your readers, that what I am about to describe of this happy country, and the mode of getting acceſs to it, is no fiction of my own; but a true and genuine account of a place which has existed, in a state of perpetual felicity, for upwards of two thousand years, during which time it has been occasionally visited by many of the prophets, philosophers, and poets, in ancient and in modern times.

I was first made acquainted with the proper mode of travelling to this country, and of obtaining acceſs to it by means of a Highland Seer, a native of the island of Iona, on whom I had conferred some favours that he valued highly; in return for which he communicated the secret *in confidence*, and made me a present on his death bed of a cap of much more value than either the *red* cap of liberty, or the *white* cap of royalty. It is a *tartan* cap of curious

texture, made, as the Seer assured me, by the hands of the Weird Sisters themselves, the manufacture of which ladies Gray has celebrated with infinite energy.

> Weave the warp, and weave the woof,
> The winding sheet of Edward's race;
> Give ample room and verge enough
> The characters of Hell to trace.——
> Weave the woof.—The thread is spun.—
> The web is wove.—The work is done.

This cap, the work of such superior artists, is possessed of the enviable power of rendering the wearer of it invisible. He conferred upon me at the same time an elbow chair, of such curious structure that whoever sits in it, after performing certain magical rites, in which he was very expert, and took great p[illegible]s to instruct me, can be transported into the [illegible]om of UTOPIA when he pleases. Possessed of t[illegible] treasures you can easily conceive that I have the command of a vast fund of enjoyment, in which I so frequently indulge as tends to keep me in an habitual state of good humour that I never could have otherwise attained.

Having been, however, not a little chagrined by some cross accidents I met with on the 20th day of the third month of the present year, vulgarly called March, I retired to my chamber at six o'clock in the evening, and feeling myself vexed, I resolved immediately to have recoure to the usual panacea. Materials having been provided for performing the sacred rites, and the cap put upon my head, the smoking liquor, after having been warmed before

the fire, was first poured from the bottle into the flowing goblet, whose browniſh froth rose full an inch above the brim; and while it stood to subside a little, such volumes of ethereal vapours ascended from the calumet or incense tube, as quickly filled the room; then by alternately quaffing large draughts of the nectareous liquor, and making freſh offerings of incense, by degrees the perturbed spirits were soothed, and all the senses lulled to repose.

When I awoke from my trance, I found myself in the council chamber of the emperor of Germany, who was sitting at the council board himself, with about a dozen of his most confidential counsellors around him. I soon learnt from the purport of the speech of an elderly little gentleman who was at that time delivering his opinion, that the affairs of the Netherlands occupied their most serious deliberation. This gentleman spoke with great warmth and acrimony. His countenance was lively, his eye ſharp and penetrating, but his brow was clouded with a dark gloom; and an air of keen severity pervaded all his features.—"Nothing, (said he,) but the strictest discipline, and the most exemplary acts of justice, will ever bring back these people to their duty; and it is only losing time to no purpose to think of lenient measures. If your imperial majesty hopes ever to derive any benefit from these provinces, that turbulent spirit which has so long pervaded all ranks of people there, must be entirely subdued. You have seen what bad effects have resulted from the lenient measures pursued by your illustrious

father and uncle. The power of doing exemplary justice is now in your hand.—Make such a use of that power, as to impreſs every living soul there with a deep sense of the danger of overstepping in the smallest degree the bounds of their allegiance. Thus will they be taught, from dread, to pay that homage, which no beneficent measures will ever be capable to insure."

The emperor was attentive to this discourse; but I could see on his countenance, towards the close of it, an emotion something like that of horror which he could not fully conceal. The little man seemed to poſseſs great authority at the board; for all sat silent for some time, and it was long before any one would venture to oppose a doctrine, which I could easily perceive none of them could fully approve. Another elderly gentleman, of a corpulent habit of body, and more placid countenance, at length ventured to offer some hints of the danger that might poſsibly result from acts of great severity, which in some cases, it was well known, drove men to seek for resources in despair; and therefore he wiſhed that such a conduct could be adopted as might avoid the danger of this great evil, while it ſhould at the same time repreſs that spirit of turbulence, which he owned had too much pervaded all ranks of persons in the Netherlands.

These observations encouraged a young man of a modest and ingenuous appearance to make a motion as if he wiſhed to speak. He half rose from his seat, as if impelled by a keen sensation before he was aware; but suddenly, as if recollecting himself,

he bluſhed, and with an air of infinite modesty and diffidence sunk back again into his chair, the half formed word seeming to die away upon his tongue. His appearance attracted the notice of the emperor, who with great sweetneſs encouraged him to proceed; and the complacent looks of all the company seemed to invite him to go on. He slowly rose, and with a modest and diffident air, not venturing to raise his eyes, uttered in some faint and broken accents a feeble apology for his presuming to attempt to speak in presence of men of such superior abilities, and so much greater reach of experience than himself. "Nothing, (continued he,) but the deepest conviction of the great importance of the present question to the peace and tranquillity of the state, and the happineſs of his imperial majesty, could have induced me to obtrude my opinion on this august aſsembly. I do it with the diffidence natural to one of so little experience as myself; and crave the indulgence of your imperial majesty, and the respectable council, while I attempt, as well as I can, briefly to state some circumstances, which have made so deep an impreſsion on my own mind, as to have emboldened me to get over those natural restraints which a ſhort while ago I considered to be insurmountable."—— Here he paused for a ſhort time, and having in some measure recovered himself he thus proceeded:

"I feel in my own bosom such an irresistible repugnance to submit to harſh severity, as convinces me that no permanent security can be obtained from fear, nor any national tranquillity be insured which rests upon the basis of cruel compulsion. It is those

alone who contemplate the Supreme Being as an object of veneration and of love, who feel the influence of that pure devotion which constitutes the solace of the human mind in times of deep distreſs, and humiliating afflictions. In like manner it is those only who love and venerate the king for his kindneſs and beneficence, who are to be relied upon in times of trial and distreſs; at which times only he can have occasion for their aid. What avails it him that during the sunſhine of prosperity he receives the daily oblations of a thousand applauding tongues, if in the day of adversity he ſhall have no friends in whom he can confide. If fear only ſhall induce his vaſsals to obey, who can tell but that very dread may induce them to plot in secret to destroy in one moment this object of their hate? Will not this idea present itself to the mind of the sovereign at times, and deprive him of the power of enjoying those very pleasures he aimed at securing by those harſh means. I would not, O king! have the perpetual anxiety of dreading that my life was in danger from every one who approached me, for all the wealth and all the power the world could confer upon me. We must all meet death some time. It can come but once; and when it does come, let us meet it without the dread which conscious guilt inevitably occasions. I have too sincere a love for your imperial majesty, to be able to see you embrace a conduct, that must, I know, overwhelm your generous soul in perpetual distreſs, without entering my warmest diſsent to such a proposal. You have

now in your power, an opportunity of gaining the affections of your Belgian subjects, which if suffered to escape may never more return. Neither your illustrious father nor your uncle could boast of such good fortune;—suffer it not then, O prince! to pafs away in vain. For more than a century past secret difsatisfactions have prevailed among the subjects of Belgia. They were jealous lest the Austrian princes wifhed to curtail their ancient privileges,—those privileges, which, when fully enjoyed, rendered their native princes the greatest in Europe. While these jealousies subsisted, no concefsions that were consistent with good government could have satisfied them. Happily for you, the French having made an irruption into these territories has convinced them that the influence of good laws, strictly enforced, is the greatest of all earthly blefsings. They sigh for the return of these blefsings, though they tremble from the dread of that power which they feel they cannot resist, and which they know they have provoked. It is the mark of a little mind to punifh the weaknefses of others with unrelenting severity. Great minds alone dare to overlook offences. All mankind reverence and adore the man who can nobly forgive those who have given him just occasion of offence. Act then this noble part; and by one generous deed command the love and esteem of all your subjects, and the veneration of the whole world. A few months ago you ifsued a proclamation offering in the freest terms to grant to your Belgian subjects all the privileges they have so long been anxious to secure. At that mo-

ment you had no authority in these provinces, and it was construed to be only an act of meanneſs on your part. The time is now arrived for you to ſhow it was the natural dictates of a just and beneficent mind. You now have it in your power to command what you will; let your will then order, in the hour of prosperity, what it formerly approved. Let it be proclaimed in all your Belgian provinces it is your royal will, that the people ſhould enjoy the same privileges as they ever did enjoy under the government of their most favourite native princes; and let this be done with sincerity. I ſhall be answerable for the succeſs of this happy event. Proclaim at the same time a free and unlimited oblivion and indemnity to all persons, without a single exception, for every act performed by them before the day on which the proclamation ſhall be publiſhed among them; warning them that for every act contrary to their due allegiance, or in contravention of the law, from that day forward, ſhall be puniſhable as the law awards. Do this, O prince! Go forward with confidence among them. Act with the candour that is natural to yourself, and I ſhall be answerable with my head for the succeſs of this measure."——

Here he stopped. While he was yet speaking his eyes were animated with an unusual lustre; his voice gradually acquired an open clearneſs and force, very unlike to what was looked for at the beginning, and his countenance glowed with a kind of celestial ardour: but when he ceased, his countenance began to fall; he looked abaſhed, as if conscious that he had been hurried into an inadvertent for-

wardneſs, and he ſunk down into his ſeat in a kind of deliquium. The emperor, who eyed him all the time with a tender ſolicitude, haſtily roſe from his ſeat, and running to him, kindly graſped him by the hand; thanked him for the generous advice he had offered; ſaid it accorded much with his own feelings, but that he dared not to truſt to these implicitly on the preſent occaſion.

While he was thus engaged, a meſſenger haſtily entered with a packet; and with a joyful countenance announced good news from the Netherlands,—another important victory gained near Louvain. Every one was now ſo anxious to know the particulars that the council broke up in a hurry, and I was left alone for a ſhort time to ruminate on what I had just ſeen.

From the converſation of ſome attendants who afterwards entered, I underſtood that the young orator was the ſon of a nobleman of great eminence lately deceaſed; that he had been in ſome meaſure the companion and attendant of the emperor during the courſe of his education; that a cordial intimacy and mutual eſteem ſubſiſted between them; and that great hopes were entertained by the people, who admired the young nobleman on account of his candour and affability, that the diſpoſitions of the emperor were naturally beneficent and humane. I alſo ſecretly rejoiced at the cordiality I had remarked. But I muſt for the preſent have done: ſo good Sir adieu.

TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

THE following letter, one of four on the seasons, fell with its companions into my hands by succeſsion to the papers of a worthy gentleman in England lately deceased.

They all bear the date of the year sixteen hundred and eighty-five.

As they contain (although addreſsed to the imagination,) many curious circumstances relating to the appearances of nature, and some respecting economy and art, I have placed notes on the margin where elucidation might furniſh agreeable or useful information, suited to our climate and country. I am, Sir, your constant reader,

A. B.

To the Daughters of Sophia on the dawning of the Spring.

Alathea, Isabella, Sophia, my dear girls, the daughters of my dearest friends! the delightful season of verdure is come. Rise up, my fair ones, and come away; for, lo! the winter is past, the rain is over and gone, the flowers appear on the earth, the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land. Come my dearest, let us go forth into the field, let us lodge in the villages. Thus, my dear girls, did I apostrophise this morning, in the course of a charming walk to inhale the first freſhneſs of reviving nature, and look at the opening of the spring.

The wind, which had long continued in the ruffian quarters of the continent, came now bland and genial from the south and from the west. How delightful the change! how pleasing the sensations I experienced in the course of this walk! "vernal delight and joy, enough to drive all sadneſs but despair."

You used to wonder at the careleſsneſs and inattention of the Miſs Woodfords on the subjects of beautiful nature that engroſsed your admiration at this season of the year in the country, and even in town, where your mother encouraged you to walk out of a morning early, with your aunts and the governeſs.

How thankful ye ought to be for the unspeakable bleſsing of parents that taught you to enjoy the pleasures of science and sentiment. Pleasures which the common intercourse of the world cannot afford, which malevolence cannot take away, and in which a stranger cannot intermeddle.

The Miſs Woodfords were (ye know,) trained up amid the artificial pleasures and luxuries of the town. You amid the natural and placid satisfaction of the country, surrounded with the fragrant beauties of the fields, and nursed as it were in the bountiful bosom of nature.

What sort of knowledge can an enervated fooliſh little daughter of city noise and bustle have of the country?

The charming hours of the morning, those sweet hours of prime! are consumed in sleep or in sloth.

Miſs gets out of bed at a late hour, and pules over some tasteleſs breakfast. Then comes the learned Mr Matho to teach her geography, or some other science by rote, but entertains her more with the town talk, or the praises of her beauty and faſhion, than with the charms of literature. Then succeed the labours of the virginals, or of the lute, and then of the toilet and the hurry of faſhion.

How could the Miſs Woodfords live out of a crowd, or enjoy the placid delights of the country? But since you are happy enough to employ your leisure in rational amusements that never disgust, and can steal a little day of your own from the morning, before the great and faſhionable world is awake, I will attempt to entertain you with an account of my morning walk.

You have never been at this place. This place of remote and profound retirement which I chose for myself in a foreboding moment, that I might remove myself from public and general insanity, from the close and immediate view of the return of those miserable times when it was dangerous to be virtuous, dangerous to expreſs the noblest emotions of the soul, dangerous to seem happy, criminal to be sad; when true philosophy was set down for atheism, true religion for fanaticism, and wit for treason; when the writings, nay the words and looks of the innocent were marked and set down by spies and informers, for the direction of future perſecution and proscription; and when all this was

done under the pretence and ſhelter of avowed loyalty to the ſtate and commonwealth.

In ſuch a place as this, like Ovid at Tomi, I can pour out my complaints to the roaring ſtreams, and my voice ſhall not be heard; I can woo the zephyrs with the praiſes of vernal and ſylvan beauty, and they ſhall waft the harmleſs theme to the remoteſt parts of the earth.

It was at ſix in the morning that I ſet out from my peaceful manſion, and it was a ſweet little Robin that was my watchman and roused me from my bed. Nothing but neceſsity maketh the Robin to truſt to man, (ſaid I,) and well I wot he is wise; but I will truſt to that charming ſong for a pleaſant morning; and away I bruſhed along.

I aſcended the green hill, whoſe ſides are covered with timber and with copſe, on the margin of the river, but leave paſsage for cattle and for ſheep. At firſt I delighted myſelf with the open expanſe of day and of landſcape, and with the ſinging of the lark. I caſt my eyes around the noble extenſive horizon, and ſaw the ſun gilding the tops of diſtant mountains, and the fumes of the morning riſing from far diſtant rivers, that ever and anon concealed the curling ſmoke of villages and hamlets, which I could deſcry in ſhining points between the thickneſs of the haze, as the rays of the ſun came upon them through the valleys or the cleſts of the mountains.

Then, as fancy inclined me, I plunged into the dark receſses of the wood.

The dale through which I thus wandered, after having ſatisfied myſelf with the hill, extends ſome-

what more than three miles through a paſtoral yet ſylvan ſcene, where ſheep and cattle are ſeen in ſucceſsion on the banks of a noble river.

The hither margin of this river ſpreads itſelf into frequent meadows; the further riſes and juts out with bold and fantaſtic rocks. The river in its paſſage is continually changing its direction, its motion, and appearance. It is never leſs than forty, nor much more than eighty yards wide. In ſome places it is deep and remarkably ſmooth, but tranſparent to the bottom; and it is pure as chryſtal, with a ſilver hue, except where by the oppoſition of rock it is daſhed into foam of the pureſt white, under water-falls that are perfectly lucid.

These falls are numerous but various. In ſome places they ſtretch ſtraight acroſs or aſlant the ſtream; in others they are only partial, and the water either daſhes againſt the rocks, and leaps over them, or pouring along a ſteep, rebounds from thoſe below; ſometimes it ruſhes through the ſeveral openings between them; ſometimes it drops gently down; and at other times it is driven back by the obſtruction, and turns into an eddy.

In one particular ſpot the river is ſo much obſtructed by rock, and the narrowneſs of its paſſage, that it rages, and roars, and foams, till it has extricated itſelf from its confinement. Soon afterward it is ſpread into an expanſe of deep and placid, but perfectly tranſparent water like a lake, from which, as from the fineſt looking glaſs, are reflected the picture of the magnificent rocks, crowned, tufted, or ſprinkled with various wood. The rocks, all along

the dale, vary as often in their structure and appearance as the river doth in its course and motion. In one place they exhibit an extended ragged surface, like the ruins of an immense decayed fortalice. In another you see a heavy top hanging forward, and overshadowing all beneath; and sometimes from the impression of the torrents on the indurated clay, huge columns are left standing, sometimes in clusters, and sometimes alone, like the stupenduous monuments of ancient grandeur; and these are occasionally chequered or covered with ivy and wild bushes.

It was now seven of the clock, and the dark indigo of the triple headed mountain that formed the chief object on the back ground of this landscape, was changed to a pleasing dove colour in the warming rays of the ascending sun, that not long after discovered the green of its pastures, and the whiteness of its numerous flocks; while the long dark empurpled shade of the mountain was seen to spread over many a mile of rich and cultivated country.

On the confine of this shade was seen a beautiful village, and a bridge of three noble arches across the river.

The breakfast smoke of the village was rising in spiry volumes to the clouds.

The sound of the ploughman's whistle was faintly heard at a distance between the choruses of the birds; and the scene of sylvan solitude became more animated, and by the contrast much more delightful.

I was now lowly sauntering on the very margin of the stream, when my eye was suddenly stricken with a colouring of water I had never before observed. The rays of the sun, which from a height interposed, did but only skim the surface of the river, stained the pebbly shore between me and the stream with an azure blue of ultra marine, the water showed through its transparency a golden yellow on the sand at the bottom, and where the shadow of the overhanging rocks interrupted the transparency, the darkest indigo blue was seen as it were to float and to flicher on the surface of this molten gold, as it was moved either by the agitation of the onward course of the river, or by the influence of the breeze*. The smoke of my village, and the thoughts of breakfast now shaped my course homewards, and I bent my attention more to the minuter circumstances of the country, than to the grandeur or beauty of the scene. I listened to the music of the groves, and attended to the innocent and useful labours of the husbandman and of the shepherd; I diligently marked the progress of the season in the leafing of the trees and shrubs, and in the blowing of the flowers; and I set down the result in my pocket book, that I might compare the difference between the earlier or later appearances of vegetation, a practice which I recommend to your attention, as it is not only

* This is an appearance which the Editor of this letter never saw but once. Innumerable are the charms of varying nature to the attentive lover of the country!

attended with amusement, but may eventually be productive of advantage to science, and particularly to the art of agriculture. Trees, ſhrubs, and flowers are good thermometers. Mr Boyle can contrive no better for directing the labours of the farmer, or the undertakings of the traveller *.

* This remark is worthy of attention and diffuſion. I ſhall here ſet down for the inſtruction and amuſement of the readers of the Bee, a ſtate of remarkably early vegetation, accurately reported by a gardener in Fife, March 31. 1779, the authenticity of which may be depended upon, and it may be compared with the lateneſs of the preſent ſeaſon and that of others ſtill more backward.

March 31. Plumbs beginning to ſet, flouriſh to fall off. The leaf ſpred, and within a quarter of its full ſize. *It was in full flower on the 8th of March.* Upon the ſame wall apricot fruit ſet, and of the ſize of an ordinary grown currant. Growth of this year's ſhoots full three inches.

Nectarines in full flower, and the flowers beginning to drop off.

Raſps in full leaf, and this year's ſhoots ſprung full ſeven inches.

Rheum palmatum, or true rhubarb, in full leaf. The principal ſtem ſprung fifteen inches and an half.

Young hops ſprung two feet ſeven inches. Bees busy carrying on work, and have done ſo ſince the beginning of March. Roſes and ſweet briar in full leaf.

Sycamore well leafed and ſpread, burſt on the 15th of March.

March 31. Seed flowers of the elm fully out, and turning brown. They were in full flower March 8th.

Leaf buds breaking and expanding on the lower branches.

Birch in full leaf. Their buds began to break, and their leaves to appear on the 20th of March.

The horſe cheſnut in leaf, and the flowers well advanced, but not opened. Growth of the young ſhoots three inches and an half.

Walnuts beginning to ſhow their leaves.

Lilly of the valley nearly full blown.

White Narciſſus in full flower, obſerved to be flowered on the 30th of March.

New England pines, ſpring's ſhoots one-fourth of an inch.

I may perhaps send you, my dear girls, the graduations of this new thermometer in my next.

I now sped my way homeward, under the freſhest and finest foliage, exhilerated by the sing-

Black spruce and the white one half of an inch. Balm of Gilead fir, three eighths of an inch. Mountain aſh in full leaf, and sprung four inches. Hawthorn in full leaf, and green since March 15. March 31, flowers formed, but not fully blown. Evergreen oak, acorns formed, and as large a- Jamaica pepper corns:

Laurel bay flower beginning to open.

The leaf buds of the lime trees large and beginning to open, some of the lower branches green with the new leaf.

Thermometer fifty-four in the ſhade.

The winter of 1778—79 was mild in Scotland, beyond all recorded example, and was proportionably favourable to the aged and infirm, few of such died at Edinburgh during the course of that winter. On the last day of the year 1778 there was a violent hurricane at Edinburgh, and a still greater on the 13th of January following, when a stack of wood preparing for the hall of the college of physicians was blown about St Andrew's square, at one o'clock in the afternoon, like the ſhavings of a carpenter's yard, and one of the battens was driven through the croſs lights in a corner house like a javelin!

Additional information respecting this singular season by the Editor.

The whole of the winter 1778—79 was so remarkably mild, that there was not even an air of frost that could hurt even the most tender vegetables that grow in this climate. Pease, beans, and other vegetables, the seeds of which were ſhed in autumn, sprung up and grew without a check during winter; and in the month of February, in fields of wheat that had been sown after beans, the beans were seen standing thick among the wheat in full bloſsom. Gooseberries were so forward, that during the month of April many of them had been pulled for tarts; as they had by that time attained the size they usually reach in June; and garden pease were in many places in full bloſsom in April.

No frost was experienced till the night between the 2d and 3d of May, when it froze so keenly as to produce many disastrous effects. The writer of this article had at that time some pease in full bloſsom:

ing of birds, and the bleating of the flocks, when suddenly I spied a ſhepherd coaxing an ewe to receive and suckle a lamb that ſeemed to be a ſtranger. I accosted him, and he told me that was actually the case, and that the lamb in queſtion had an unlucky dam, that could give no milk, while the ewe had lost her darling by the fox on the night preceding.

I saw him rub the lamb acroſs her teats before he presented it to suckle, and then the ewe received and entertained it as her own, being deceived by the smell. A little farther on I heard a long descant on a cow that had had three calves at a birth, and was amply suckling them all. They were all females, otherwise I ſhould have inquired for a *free marten* of a new description between two bulls, of which I never knew an instance. The season is nowise remarkable as to its forwardneſs on this 14th of April, a day interesting to you and your family by the birth of your mother.

Last night I heard the nightingale, however, for the first time. It is not indeed long since we have

but to his great mortification, when he went into the garden on the morning of Sunday the 3d of May, he found them all lying flat to the ground, as if they had been cut over by a scythe; and not one of them survived it. The gooseberries, unleſs where the buſhes where accidentally screened by clothes or mats spread over them, were all thrown to the ground, quite wallowed. The hawthorn hedges, which were then in full leaf, were all scorched as if they had been put into the fire. The graſs was destroyed, and almost every green thing withered: but as it came fine weather afterwards they soon regained their wonted vigour. The summer that followed was remarkably warm; and the effects of the frost, unleſs upon the fruit, were soon forgotten.

had that bird in this neighbourhood, and we owe it I imagine to the contiguous cultivation that connects us with the south.

It is a strange theory to deem the nightingale a bird of paſsage, when we have all the other wagtail tribe for the winter. The nightingale is local, and concealed by the modesty of its plumage; it goes, like other creatures, where it meets with ſhelter and good entertainment.

I am now preparing for my fete on the birth day of Aurelia, which is on the 21st. It ſhall be in the hall of ancient virtue, and there ſhall be a concert. I will then in ſecret pour out libations to Jupiter, the deliverer and avenger of wrongs; — but enjoy the preſent.

I have ſent you a puzzle for Mr Matho when you ſee the Miſs Woodfords, in an inſcription which is placed in my hall, under the ſtatue of Helvidius Priſcus, which with the aid of his famous Lexicon, he may be able to explain.

Deo optumo maxumo, omnipotenti,
Benevolenti, omniam bonorum deliciæ,
Flagitii et ſtellionis latentiſsimi ultori,
Libertatis vindici, orbis terrarum
Et naturæ univerſæ patri et amico,
Stultis filiis ſuperſtitionis ignoto,
Rationis luci, ſapientibus et probis
Hominibus noto, perſpicuo, et cariſsimo.

The above is exactly copied without correction or alteration of any ſort. *Edit.*

THE TRAVELLER. No. VII.

OBSERVATIONS AND OPINIONS OF J. W. SPENCER.

Continued from p. 99.

Baſsano.

It is about one hundred and thirty miles from Rome to Capua, and near twenty more from that to Naples. I have taken up my residence at a delightful village about half way betwixt them, where my stay will be determined as it was at Geneva. Abbe Raynal on my first tour aſked how long I was to stay there, I said that I did not know how long, but I would stay till I was weary of the place, "'Tis the best rule in life," said he. He could only mean that it was a very good one.

I might swell this article to a great length, by telling you that this country, famous for its pastures, derives its name from the Greek word *Italos*, signifying an ox, by mentioning its divisions and subdivisions; its ancient inhabitants the Aborigines, Pelasgi, Rutuli, *&c.* and matters of that sort; but I don't mean any thing of the kind. 'Tis my journey and opinions that I write, and not the ancient history or the present state of the countries through which I paſs.

I always smile when I hear one pretend to deſpise or ridicule accompliſhments he does not poſseſs. There is a gentleman here who plays well on the violin; he laughs at his friend, and says he is a pedant, because he understands Greek and Latin well

enough to reliſh the beauties of their poets. The ſcholar ſmiles at the muſician; the painter laughs at both; and all three at the hiſtorian. "Never, (they ſay,) never will we ſtuff our brain with ſuch idle nonſenſe. Can any thing be leſs important than the knowledge of what is paſt?"

Ye country ſurgeons, grave ſhopkeepers, men of ſedentary lives, watchmakers, and American refugees, I call upon you all to conſider this, and to make the application if ye underſtand my drift.

The face of nature is always gay, and ever ſmiling in theſe happy regions. The ſoil is fertile, and produces every grain, and every fruit that the influence of a genial ſun can pour into the lap of plenty. Every little ſtream has been ſung in days of old, and every field is claſsic ground. It is pleaſing to conſider how the climate of this country has changed for the better within theſe two thouſand years. I think I could account for it were this a proper place. Virgil hath given directions how to protect flocks and herds from ſnow and froſt, that can no longer be uſeful in this part of Italy; and to hear Horace talking of ſnowy Soracté, and *ligna ſuper foco large reponens*, one would imagine he was far to the northward of the Alps.

Generally ſpeaking, there is in all mankind a very unaccountable affection for their native country*. Poliſhed European, Caffre, Greenlander, Indian, Samoiede, and Otaheitan, this *amor patriæ* is common to you all! But for it many a dreary hill

*Neſcio qua natale ſolum dulcedine cunctos
Ducit, immemores non ſinit eſſe ſui. OVID EP. lib. i l. 35.

and barren plain would be forsaken by their inhabitants, who would prefer the mild climate and fruitful fields of this garden of Europe to their own stormy winters and ungrateful soil.

Were we to consider in what grofs ignorance the western world was immersed ten or eleven centuries ago, the spiritual empire which the bifhops of Rome found means to eftablifh over so considerable a portion of the globe would appear just what might have been expected in the nature of things. The little knowledge which had escaped the general wreck, was confined entirely to ecclesiastics who were devoted to the see of Rome, and they only were capable of directing affairs of state. *In this enlightened age we are acquainted with the power of superstition over the human mind only by the effects which we know it has produced*, and we are apt to accuse of weaknefs those princes and kingdoms that tamely submitted to be so long directed by the papal see, when we ought rather to pity their ignorance. Without the art of printing, *knowledge* must ever have been confined to those few in whom ability to buy books united with a taste for study. But after that most useful of inventions, which puts books within the reach of almost every one, knowledge spread over Europe with amazing rapidity. Men soon began to think for themselves, and to reason concerning their civil and religious rights. Princes who had the command of the military force, being more interested in preserving or extending their own power than in protecting that of the clergy, suffered, and in some places encouraged this spirit

of inquiry. The diſsolute lives of the clergy, so contrary to their profeſsion, prompted men, heated and eager, *&c. &c.* —— —— ——

I find this would lead me into a longer diſsertation than I dare engage in at present.

'Tis needleſs to attempt putting that face upon the matter to you, my dear fellow; to you I honestly confeſs it would lead me far beyond my depth.

My feelings are not hurt by attendance on divine worſhip, even where the ceremonial part is very different from that of my own country; and ever since I could think of matters of the sort, I have believed that a very moderate ſhare of learning and knowledge would infallibly lead to this liberality of sentiment. Yet when he was in Scotland, the great Dr Samuel Johnson refused to hear a preſbyterian clergyman. "Let Dr Robertson, (said he,) get up to a tree and preach, and I will hear him; but never by my presence will I sanction a preſbyterian aſsembly." Still I fancy the general rule will seldom fail; and some of our most ingenious and learned men have declared a general rule the stronger for a few exceptions. If he is consistent with himself, of this opinion will that gentleman be, who, when he had the honour to represent the city of Edinburgh, declared in the House of Commons, in the case of Sir Hugh Palliser, that the partial acquittal of the court martial was more to his honour than an unanimous one would have been.

This place ſwarms with religious persons, both regulars and seculars, who three hundred years ago were judged equally neceſsary. In many countries

the seculars have been long suppreſsed, without any inconvenience, and some scruple not to think the day is coming, though it be yet at a great distance, when the regulars ſhall ſhare the same fate. General censures of the clergy might perhaps be construed into disaffection to religion, a fault of which I hope I never ſhall be justly accused. However, I do not deny that I cannot be much pleased at seeing a man puzzling himself and his hearers, in order to explain a mystery that he knows as little of as the meanest of his hearers; or to divide and subdivide a point of morality that requires no division at all; though this, it must be owned, is now seldomer to met with, even in catholic countries, than was not long ago common among the more enlightened clergy of Britain.

The major part of mankind being doomed to labour for their daily bread, deep learning can never become general; but some thousands of years hence, when by means of printing a moderate portion of knowledge ſhall be diſseminated, and when all mankind ſhall be as enlightened, my dear fellow, as thou art, then may we hope that mankind will unite in being satisfied that true religion consists, not so much in a rigid adherence to this or that particular set of tenets; but that its eſsence consists in an unfeigned submiſsion to the will of God, and a sincere worſhip of the Supreme Being in spirit and in truth.

W. E.

To the Editor of the Bee.

Sir, from a vale as *Tempe* sweet,
By — — water'd I thee greet,
And hope that from a little county,
You'll not despise a little bounty,
(Little county—little present,
E'en as *parvum parva decent*,)
Forsooth because there's scarce a Scot,
That reads your Bee, and has a groat
To pay the post, but doth transmit,
Of prose or verse, to thee some bit,
Or good, or bad, or middling stuff,
Such as his brain affords. Dost huff?
(For having Fancy's steed bestrode,
And fourscore miles and upwards rode,
And sprung clean o'er the friths of *Tay*
And *Forth* expanded in the way,
Within a *moment*. eke in *winter*,
I'm at your elbow, Master Printer.)
" Tut son, say'st thou, of Maia's son,
" Art hither come to make us fun?
" In step Iambick thou dost foot it,
" And in fantastic coat art suited:
" Hence, hence! of thee and thy brain's stuff,
" We've got too much,—at least enough."
—But softly Sir, you've wrong begun,
I'm of Latona's son a son,
In proof whereof, look here I bring
A drop of the Castalian spring.
" A *drop!*"—nor scorn, let me thee tell,
A *drop*, if from Castalia's well;
For well you know that spring's almost
Block'd up just now with snow and frost;
And at the best the spring's so small,
It can't supply the wants of all,
Who round it are for ever flocking
Gasping for thirst, and eke near choaking,
So you may prize it when ye get it,
For many a one n'er tastes't who seek it *.

* The *drop* promised was not-sent, to the great disappointment of the Editor, who has long looked in vain for a pure drop of this famous fountain. He suspects this spring must consist of a fluid that requires a greater degree of heat to liquefy it than this climate affords; for it appears to him to be frozen up here alike in summer as in winter. Perhaps it is of the nature of tallow or spermaceti, which requires a warmer climate to set it a flowing. Since this notion struck him, he has been very anxious to see a little of it, that he might subject it to the list of chemical experiments; but his correspondents seem to be very shy in furnishing it; judge then of his disappointment at finding it wanting on the present occasion.

Gleanings of Ancient Poetry.

A Caution for Courtly Damsels.

From Epigrams subjoin'd to J. Sylvester's Du Bartas.

Beware, fair maid, of mighty courtiers oaths,
Take heed what gifts or favours you receive;
Let not the fading glofse of silken cloaths
Dazzle your vertues, or your fame bereave;
For once but leave the hold you have of grace,
Who will regard your fortune or your face?

Each greedy hand will strive to catch the flower,
When none regard the stalke it growes upon;
Baseneſse desires the fruit still to devoure,
And leave the tree to fall or stand alone;
But this advise, fair creature, take of mee,
Let none take fruit unleſse hee'll ha e the tree.

Beleeve not oaths, nor much protesting men,
Credit no vowes, nor a bewailing song;
Let courtiers sweare, forsweare, and sweare agen,
The heart doth live ten regions from the tongue;
For when with oaths and vows they make you tremble,
Beleeve them least for then the most diſsemble.

Beware lest Crœsus doe corrupt thy minde,
Or fond ambition sell thy modesty;
Say, though a king thou even courteous finde,
Hee cannot pardon thy impurity.
Begin with kings, to subjects you will fall;
From lord to lackey, and at last to all.

On Friendship.

From Paradise of Daynty Devise. fol. 1. 5. *signed M. Yloop.*

Not stayed state, but feeble stay,
Not costly robes, but bare array;
Not paſsed welth, but present want,
Not heped store, but sclender ſkant;
Not plenty's purse, but poore estate,
Not happy hap, but froward fate;
Not with at wil, but want of joy,
Not hart's good helth, but hart's annoy;
Not freedome's use but prisoner's thrall,
Not costly seate, but lowest fall;
Not weale I meane, but wretched wo,
Doth truely try the freend from foe;
And nowght but frowarde fortune proves,
Who fauning faines, or simply loves.

The Self Rival. A Nouvellette from the French. *

Women with an eminent degree of beauty and elegance never fail pleasing at first sight; and, on the other hand, the plain and forbidding may also assure themselves of a contrary effect; the former have nothing to fear, nor the latter to hope. But they who are neither of a striking beauty nor ugliness, it much concerns to take great precautions at a first interview, the success of which depends not only on the taste of him to whom they are desirous of appearing amiable, but on the different dispositions in which the man may happen to be; as in a gloomy moment of chagrin he may be disgusted with one of those half beauties, with whom amidst the festivity of an entertainment he would have been charmed.

An only daughter, one of those equivocal beauties we have been speaking of, became, at first sight, enamoured of a gentleman on whom she perceived that the first sight of her had not such an effect. They happened to meet at a judge's chambers about a law suit on which depended the welfare of the two families. In order to adjust an affair of such concern, yet uncertain, a match was agreed on between the two parents, and a day was appointed in which this happy agreement should be celebrated by a splendid feast. The heiress made her appearance on that occasion in a very careless dress, and her compliments and behaviour were no less void of ceremony. This created some astonishment; and being asked by her mother what reason she had for such singularity, she made answer, that having perceived, at the judge's chamber, that her person

* From this performance Mrs Cowley has borrowed the plot of her comedy entitled the Belles Stratagem.

was not like to create any love in her future huſband, ſhe would endeavour at least to gain his esteem by modesty.

The gentleman, who had been for some time expected, came; he was a very personable youth, and though not wanting in manners or good sense, of an exceſsive frankneſs, plainly speaking what he thought. His first speech at coming in was to the mother, saying he came to pay his duty to her; that this morning was the first time he had ever heard of the marriage which his father intended for him. "Had I known, (continued he,) saluting the young lady, that you were ſhe with whom I am to paſs my life, I would have entreated you freely to have told me, whether in a marriage concerted between our parents, merely for the mutual interest of the two families, you as willingly conformed to your mother's directions, as I obey my father; for if the match be in the least against your inclination, it is what I will never suffer myself to be brought to." To this the mother, preventing the daughter, answered, 'That her daughter had most willingly obeyed at the very first intimation. But, Sir, allow me to desire that you, with your natural sincerity, would declare, whether you have any liking to my daughter.'" O! (answered he,) I see supper is on the table, I will answer that question at the deſsert; but for the present let us sit down." The table talk turned entirely on the oddneſs of a marriage so suddenly concluded: not a word came from the daughter, and it was very seldom ſhe looked at the gentleman, though already in love with him; but ſhe had her drift. At length comes the deſsert, and the servants being ordered to withdraw, the mother challenged the gentleman's promise of freely declaring his mind; which he did with all imaginable politeneſs; he gave her to understand that her daughter had not touched his heart; but

protested that she might depend on the most civil treatment, and every mark of real affection. This new manner of making love occasioned a good deal of pleasantry, till the company broke up. The mother, in her return home, rallied her daughter for sitting like a mope at table. "I had my reasons for it, (said the daughter,) I did it to make myself loved." 'Loved! (answered the mother,) you go an odd way to work.' But this sagacious girl laid open her scheme so much to the mother's satisfaction, that she promised to act a part in it.

The day following. the gentleman paid a visit to the daughter, whom he did not love, but whom, for her character, he esteemed. After a short silence, she, with a mien which could give him no great idea of her intellects, said, that as she had no hopes of his love, she at least required from him an excessive proof of his esteem, which was, should he hereafter take a fancy to any other woman, to make her his confidante. This proposal he looked on in the light which he thought it deserved, and made answer, that as far as he knew himself, he was not the most propense to amours, but that should such a thing fall out, his reason would help him to stifle a passion, and conceal it from himself, so far from imparting it to his wife. She insisted that she would stand in his heart, at least in the rank of a good friend. This produced a long contest, managed with great indifference on his side, and with a vapid sort of obstinacy on hers. He still would not promise so extravagant a confidence, till, to be rid of her importunities, with a contemptuous laugh, he complied with what she had been soliciting. Another good quality of this gentleman was, that what he had promised he kept to. He took his leave of her, telling her, in a careless manner, that he was going to the ball, and always put on a Spanish dress, and very seldom missed a night; to

which she answered, that she could not endure a ball, dancing was a thing that she could never learn.

He was no sooner in the street than she sent for an Espagnoletta habit, purposing to follow him.—With the finest shape in the world, and an advantageous stature, she had all the graces of attitude, and danced inimitably; her neck, the contour of her face, and her eyes were perfectly beautiful; so that with a little mask, and the apertures for the eyes very open, her appearance was quite enchanting. She soon attracted the eyes of the whole company, and her Spaniard was not the least charmed: being taken out to dance, she herein increased the admiration of her person. The Spaniard, who stood forward to have the better sight of her, had the high pleasure of being chosen for her second partner.—After dancing, they fell into conversation. The Spaniard, enraptured with the brilliancy of her repartees, and the turn and delicacy of her thoughts, little imagined this engaging person to be her whom he had seen only in her negligée, which hid her shape, and disfigured her air, and affected an indolence bordering on stupidity; in a word, he began to love her beyond what he thought himself susceptible of, and rejoiced in the happiness only of being told by her that she was to be at the ball on the following night, and in the same habit.

On the afternoon of the next day he waited on his future bride, whom he found in her usual indolence, and more carelesly dressed than before; but in her discourse a surprizing alteration. Such judgement, such elevation of thought, such tenderness of sentiments, and delivered with such amiable sweetness, that he began to grow a little easy, though she wanted the sparkling wit, and radiant charms of the Espagnoletta: yet some signs of extreme agitation escaped him; and from time to time, to her great joy, he

fell into unusual distractions. She now plainly saw tha he was smitten. They both kept their word to meet at he ball; and in a conversation still more animated than that of the last night, she threw fresh fuel on his love: but his marriage obtruding itself among his raptures, gave rise to such forcible reflections, that, by a very extraordinary effort of virtue, he was for suddenly leaving the Espagnoletta. "How! will you leave me?" (says she,) with an air sufficient to have enamoured him, if he had not been so. On this he sunk down again in his chair without speaking a word. "I see, (says she,) that to detain you I stand in need of all my charms; well then, I will unmask." 'No such thing! no such thing! (cried he, labouring in the noble conflict.) What will become of me?' And, in effect dreading the consequence of a longer stay, he instantly broke from her. This very probably was the first time that a mistress has been pleased at a lover's overcoming the passion he had for her. The Espagnoletta, on this flight of her Spaniard, was no less delighted with his virtue than with his love.

To be concluded in our next.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

Continued from page 191.

AN *Anonyme* who had sent a translation of a poem from the French, on a subject the Editor did not judge altogether suitable for his miscellany, writes thus: "Though the translator is by no means mortified in not, having found admission, since the Editor is pleased to think the subject of *salvation unhappily chosen*,—though the original author may console himself in the sentiment of an English poet, with a slight variation,

——I might be proud to see
Him who rejects his God rejecting me."

The Editor hopes no answer to this is now necessary on his part. He has too great a respect for religion ever to wish to see that subject *improperly* introduced on any occasion.

W. L. after complimenting the Editor in a very handsome manner, suggests the propriety of making the description of the plates always follow the plates directly, without being separated by any intervening matter; a hint that has been since that time pretty generally adhered to.—Indeed it has been universally so ordered, if the bookbinder attended to the directions given to him.

A. L. after a handsome compliment on the papers that appeared some time ago in the Bee on the literary character of Buchanan, exhorts other men of talents to come forward and rescue from a kind of oblivion into which they have accidentally fallen, some other eminent characters which have done honour to this country; among whom he specifies William Drummond of Hawthornden the patriarch of Scotland, Arthur Johnston author of Parenga, and William Ballanden. "There is, (says he,) I know in many a reluctance to produce their works in a periodical, or what they may suppose a fugitive miscellany; but let it be remembered that Pope, Swift, Atterbury, Arburthnot, Addison, and almost all the eminent men of the Britiſh Augustan age, appeared most conspicuous in such publications; and that except authors write their books to be printed in a large octavo at least, and on tough soft paper, they have a much better chance to be often handled by writing choice little pieces in the Bee, than by composing treatises on the modern plan of *Book making*, which would soon call for a bachelor Carasco to weed them after the manner of Don Quixote's library, were it not for the fortunate circumstance of deperition at which I have cautiously hinted above." The Editor is much obliged to this correspondent for his good wiſhes, and has the happineſs to observe that they have been effected above what he could reasonably have expected. He is not at liberty to say how much he has been indebted to names that are already, and will be illustrious in future times; but he hopes still to be able to adhere to such a chastened steadineſs of conduct, as to refuse admiſsion of any piece into his miscellany that ſhall tend to make them aſhamed of the company in which they ſhall appear.

Mark sends a collection of jests, which unfortunately have been thrown away on the Bee.—Specimen. "One night when Mr Garrick in the character of Hastings was going off the stage after having repeated the following line,

"And die with pleasure for my country's good,"

a droll tar in the upper gallery cried out, after having dislodged a quid, "Avast, brother! with your cheek jaw and palaver! Lords a'nt

so ready to die for old England now a days." It is hoped this specimen will amply satisfy both our readers and the writer.

H——B——n is very much dissatisfied with the critique upon some English plays which appeared in some early numbers of the Bee, and at great length enters into a vindication of many play writers in opposition to Shakespeare; which our scanty limits forbid us to quote at length. "I observe, (says he,) his L——p has a very great partiality for Shakespeare; yet if he *was* to recollect that neither before nor since the days of that immortal genius, has dame Nature bestowed such vast talents for poetic fire upon any writer that has appeared, he surely would not so much as he does cut to pieces the works of many a great man. *Was* his L—p for one moment to wave the idea of Shakespeare's uncommon powers, and take an impartial review of the various pieces that have been produced by other English and Irish writers, he would see a good cause to be less severe in his criticism." This is evidently a *young* writer. For his sake, and that of other young writers, the Editor will briefly state what occurred to himself on the subject of criticism at an early period of his life. He recollects the time perfectly well, when he heard with astonishment, men of sense talk with raptures of the inimitable beauties of Shakespeare. He was too diffident to venture to dissent from them openly; but he thought in his own mind he knew what was good and evil as well as another; and though he durst not say it, he was perfectly convinced that there was no more comparison between Thomson and Shakespeare in point of dramatic excellence, than between the sun and the moon. In no department is a knowledge of the various operations of the human mind so necessary as in that of judging of dramatic excellence: nor can that knowledge be ever obtained but from experience.

To be continued.

TO THE READERS OF THE BEE.

*** A NEW map of France divided into compartments according to the allotment of the National Assembly, is now engraving, and will be ready to be delivered with an early number of the ensuing volume. This map will be executed in the neatest manner; and will exhibit with great distinctness, not only the modern divisions, but also the ancient divisions of that country; as well as the principal roads throughout the kingdom; which never has been done on any other map hitherto published.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24. 1793.

INTRODUCTION TO JANE D'ARC.

AMONG the extraordinary events that are recorded in history, few can equal those that respect the heroine of this story. They are recorded with all the gravity of other historical events by the sagest historians and annalists of the times. The facts indeed are incontestible; and no one has ever doubted that she was the immediate cause of that astonishing revolution in the affairs of France, which terminated in the establishment of Charles VII. on the throne of his ancestors, and the total expulsion of the English from that kingdom. At the time this heroine first made her appearance, so low was the power of the Dauphin, that not a single place belonged to him but the town of Orleans alone, which was then closely besieged by the English; nor did there appear the smallest human probability that ever he could procure an army strong enough to raise the siege of that city, on which alone his all depended. In what manner this simple girl contri-

buted to bring about such an unexpected revolution will be learnt from the memoir that follows, which has been sent to the Editor by an ingenious correspondent, to whom he lies under very great obligations for this and former favours.

MEMOIRS OF JANE D'ARC, SIRNAMED THE MAID OF ORLEANS.

" Dauphin, I am by birth a ſhepherd's daughter,
" My wit untrain'd in any kind of art.
" Heaven, and our lady gracious, hath it pleas'd
" To ſhine on my contemptible eſtate:
" Lo! whilſt I waited on my tender lambs,
" And to sun's parching heat display'd my cheeks,
" God's mother deigned to appear to me:
" And in a vision full of majesty
" Will'd me to learn my true vocation,
" And free my country from calamity;
" Her aid ſhe promis'd and aſsur'd ſucceſs.
" In complete glory ſhe revealed herſelf!
" And whereas I was black and swart before,
" With thoſe clear rays which ſhe infus'd on me,
" That beauty am I bleſsed with which you see.
" Aſk me what queſtion thou can's't poſsible,
" And I will answer unpremeditated:
" My courage try by combat, if thou dar's't,
" And thou ſhalt find that I exceed my ſex.
" Reſolve on this: thou ſhalt be fortunate,
" If thou receive me for thy warlike mate."

SHAKESPEARE, HENRY VI. Part 1st. Act 1. Sc. 2.

JANE D'ARC was born at Donremy, a hamlet of the pariſh of Greux, upon the Meuse, near Vaucouleurs; her father's name was James d'Arc, her mother's Isabella Romé. Her education was proportioned to the mediocrity of her parent's fortune, and little is known of her infancy; for ſhe did seem destined to act the part ſhe afterwards performed. She left her parents at an early age; and void of experience, offered herſelf as servant to an inn, not knowing how fatal such places are to virtue and chastity: ſhe however preserved both; and as ſhe had a strength and courage above her years and sex, ſhe

employed herself in the stables, and her amusement was when she rode the horses to water, to exercise them well afterwards. This was her riding school; and she was such an excellent horse-woman, that when she joined the army there was not any officer that could manage his horse with more address. Jane was very handsome; and the violent exercises she had accustomed herself to had given her that complexion and health that animate beauty. With so much to charm, it was not possible for Jane to want a lover. She had one; but history has not named him, who upon some answers from her, which he interpreted according to his wishes, summoned her before the officialité at Toul, in order to force her to marry him. Jane appeared, and answered with so much candour and good sense, that her lover lost his cause. He strove afterwards to continue his pursuit; but Jane would not listen to him: and in order to get rid of him, returned to her father. This was the period when she first thought of her mission; and it arose from all the news she had heard of the affairs of France at the inn, in which places such topics are usually discussed. Her imagination took fire; and she looked upon herself as a girl destined by heaven to tear France out of the hands of the English. Her father by dint of her continually talking of the visions and orders she received to go to the king of France, persuaded himself she was inspired. She accompanied her uncle and aunt to Vaucouleurs, where they had some business with the governor M. Baudricourt; and when they had finished, she said to him, "Know

Sir Governor, that God has some time since, often informed and commanded me, that I ſhould go to the gentle Dauphin, who ought to be and is the true king of France, who will give me arms and ſoldiers, wherewith I ſhall raise the siege of Orleans, and lead him to be crowned at Rheims." Baudricourt looked upon her as a madwoman, and answered her with contempt. Longpont, an old gentleman whom ſhe afterwards visited, finding a great deal of good sense mixed with her rhapsodies, did not treat her so scornfully. The affairs of Charles VII. were in such a desperate situation, that although the arm of a girl of seventeen years could not be of any great help, yet it was not to be despised. All that remained now to the king was the city of Orleans; and that was warmly besieged by the Engliſh. The arrival of a young girl that might be looked upon as sent by heaven, might perhaps be sufficient to re-animate their courage. Longpont represented all these things to the governor of Vaucouleurs. Jane returned again in a few days afterwards, and said to him; "In the name of God! you delay too long in sending me; this day the gentle Dauphin has had great loſs near Orleans, and worse will happen if you do not send me soon." Baudricourt having afterwards learnt that the French had been repulsed with loſs in attacking a convoy of herrings sent by the duke of Bedford*,

* As many families in Scotland may be interested respecting some of their ancestors who fell at the battle of Herrings, (so called from the convoy consisting chiefly of that and similar articles, it being

no longer made any objections; but resolved to send her to the king. He gave her arms and a horse, which ſhe mounted with so much grace and ſkill, that that alone would have been sufficient to have

Lent,) I ſhall literally transcribe from a scarce journal of the siege of Orleans what relates to it.

Celuy jour de landemain, qui fut samedy, douzieme jour de Fevrier, ——————de Brandons, Meſsire Jean Fascot (Sir John Fastolfe) le bailly d'Evreux pour les Anglois, Meſsire Simon Morhier prevost de Paris, et plusieurs autres chevaliers et escuyers du païs d'Angleterre et de France, accompaignéz de quinze cens combattans tant Anglois, Picards, Normans, que autres gens de divers païs, amenoient environ trois cens charricts, *&c.* chargez de vivres et de plusieurs abillemens de guerre, comme cannons, arcs, trouſses, traicts et autre choses, les menans aux autres Anglois tenans le siege d'Orleans. Mais quand ils securent par leur espies la contenance des François et cogneurent que leur intention etoit de les aſsaillir; ils s'encloyrent et ſirent un parc de leur charroz et des paux aiguz, en manniere de barrieres, laiſsant une seule longue et etroite yſsue ou entreé etoit tellement que par là convenoit entrer, qui les vouloit aſsallir. Et ce faict se mirent en telle ordonnance de battaille attendans là vivre ou mourir: cómbien que d'echapper n'avoient gueres d'esperance, considerans leur petit nombre contre la multitude des François: qui tous aſsemblez d'un cómmun accord conclurent que nul ne descendroit des chevaux, sinon les archers et gens de traict qui en leur venue faiſoient devoir tirer. Apres laquelle conclusion se mirent devant La Hire, Poton, *Saulton*, *Canede*, (probably Salton and Kennedy) et pleusieurs autres venans d'Orleans, qui etoient environ quinze cens combattans qui furent advertis que les Anglois amenans les vivres venoient a la file, non ordonnez et sans avoir nulle suspicion d'être surprises: pourquoy ils furent tous d'une opinion qu'ils les aſsauderoient ainsi qu'ils venoient despourvuement. Mais le comte de Clermont mande plusieurs fois et par divers meſsages a la Hire et autres ainsi disposans d'aſsaillir leurs adversaires et qu'ils trouvoient en eux tant grand avantage qu'ils ne leur faiſsent aucun aſsault jusque a sa venue, et qu'ils leur ameneroit de trois a quatre mille combattans, moult desirans d'aſsaulter aux Anglois. Pour l'honneur et l'amour du quel ils de laiſserent leur entreprise a leur trés grande deplaisance, et surtout de La Hire, qui demonstroit l'apparence de leur dommage entant que on donnoit espace aux Anglois d'eux mettre et serrer ensemble. Et avecques ce d'eux fortifier de paux et de charriots. Et a la venùe La Hire et ceux de sa compagnie partis d'Orleans, etoient arrestez en un champ au front et tant pres les Anglois que tres legierement les avoient veux, comme est dit venir a la file et eux fortifier, dolens à merveilles de ce que les oroient aſsaillir, pour la defence et continuel meſsages d'iceluy comte de Clermont, qui toujours s'approchoit au plus qu'il pouvoit. D'autre *part* porta auſsi moult impaciem-

imposed on the multitude. He informed the king of what he had done; and gave her two gentlemen to escort her to Tours. Their names were Jean de Metz, and Bertrand de Pelonge, both of the

ment celle attente le connestable d'Ecoſse. Lequel etoit pareillement venu là pres à tout environ quatre cens combattans, on avoit de bien et vaillans hommes. Et tellement qu'ainsi qu'entre deux et trois heures apres midy approcherent les archers et gens de traict François, d'eux leurs adversaires dont aucuns etoient jà saillis de leur parc, qu'ils contraignirent reculer tres hastivement, et eux rebouter dedans par force de traict, dont ils les chargerent tant espeſsement qu'ils en tuerent plusieurs: et ceux qui purent echapper, s'en rentrerent dans leurs fortifications avecques les autres. Pourquoy et lors quand le connestable d'Ecoſse voit qu'ils se tenoient ainsi serrez et rangez sans monstrer semblant d'yſsir, il fut par trop grand chaleur tant desirant de les vouloir aſsaillir, qu'il despeça toute l'ordonnance qui avoit êté faict de tous, que nulle ne descendist. Car il se mit apres sans attendre les autres, et à son example et pour lui ayder descendirent auſsi le Bastard d'Orleans, le Seigneur d'Orval, Meſsire Guillaume Estuard (Steuart) Meſsire Jean de Mailhac, Seigneur de Chateaubrun, Vicomte de Bridiers, Meſsire Jean de Lesgot, (probably Scott) le Seigneur de Verduran, Meſsire Loys de Rochechouart, Seigneur de Monpiſsean et plusieurs autres chevaliers et escuyers avecques environ quatre cens combattans, sans les gens de traict, qui jà s'etoient mis a pied, et avoient reboutez les Anglois, et faict moult vaillamment. Mais peu leur valut: car quand les Anglois virent que la grande battaille, qui etoit aſsez loing venoit lachement, et ne se joignoit avec le connestable et les autres de pied, ils saillirent hastivement de leur parc, et frapperent dedans les François êtans à pied et les mirent en disarroy et en fuite, non pas toutes fois sans grande tuerrie: car il y mourut de trois a quatre cens combattans François. Et outre ce les Anglois non saonlez de la tuerrie qu'ils avoient faicte en la place devant leur parc, s'espendirent hastivement par les champs chaſsant ceux de pied tellement, qu'on voyoit bien douze de leurs etendarts loing l'une de l'autre par divers lieux à moins d'un traict d'arbalistre de la principale place ou avoit êté la discomfiture. Parquoy la Hire, Poton, et plusieurs autres vaillans hommes qui moult ennuis s'en alloient ainsi honteusement et s'etoient tirés ensemble pres du lieu de la destrouſse, raſsemblerent environ soixante ou quatre vingts combattans qui les suivoient çà et là et frapperent sur les Anglois ainsi espars, tellement qu'ils en tuerent plusieurs. Et certes si tous les autres François feuſsent ainsi retournez qe'ils firent, l'honneur et le proût du jour leur feust demouris: combien que paravant avoient êté là mors et tuez plusieurs grand seigneurs, chevaliers, escuyers, nobles et vaillans capitaines et chefs de guerre. Et entre lesquels y furent tuez Meſsire Guillaume d'Albert, Seigneur d'Orval, Meſsire Jean Estuart connestable d'Ecoſse, Meſsire Guillaume Estuart son frere, le Seigneur de

province of Champagne; but they made some difficulties to accompany her; and indeed not without reason, because they would be forced to paſs very near the enemy in many places. As soon as Jane perceived their doubts and fears, ſhe said to them, "In the name of God! lead me to the gentle Dauphin, and have no fears of yourselves or of me; for I warrant you ſhall have no hinderance or harm." It is worthy of remark that ſhe always called the king Dauphin, until he had been crowned.

They paſsed by Auxerre and many towns in poſseſsion of the Engliſh; as well as through countries under obedience to the king, though wasted by robbers, without any attack or hurt.

She appeared before the king, dreſsed as a warrior, and knew him in the midst of his courtiers, who attempted to deceive her; ſhe addreſsed her dis-

Verdturan, le Seigneur de Chateaubrun, Meſsire Loys de Rochechouart, et Meſsire Jean Chabot, avec plusieurs autres, qui tous etoient de grande nobleſse et tres renommeé vaillance. Les corps des quels Seigneurs furent depuis apportez à Orleans, et mis en sepulture dans la grand egliſse dicte Sainte Croix. Là on se faist pour eux beau serviçe divine. De cette battaille echappa entre autres le Bastard d'Orleans, obstant ce que dès le commencement avoit été bleſsé d'un traict au pied: parquoy deux de ses archers le tirerent à tres grande peine hors de la preiſse, le monterent à cheval, et ainsi le sauverent. Le comte de Clermont, qui ce jour avoit êté faict chevalier, ni toute la groiſse battaille, ne firent oncque semblant de secourir les compagnons, tant parce qu'ils etoient descendus à pied contre la conclusion de tous, comme auſsi parce qu'ils les voyoient presque tous tuez devant eux. Mais sitost qu'ils apperçurent que les Anglois en etoient maitres, ils se mirent en chemin vers Orleans en quoy ne firent pas honnestemente mais honteusement. Et ils eurent aſsez espace d'eux en aller. Car les Anglois ne les chaſserent pas obstant que la pluspart etoient a pied et qu'ils savoient les François être plus grand nombre qu'ils n'etoient. Combien que tout l'honneur et le profit de la victoire en demeura aux Anglois, dont etoit chef pour lors Meſsire Jean Fascot (Fastolfe) avecques lequel etoit auſsi Meſsire Thomas Rameston qui pareille ment avoit grand charge de gens d'armes.

course to him. " Gentle Dauphin, it is to you I speak, why are you unwilling to believe me? I tell you that God has pity on you, your kingdom, and your people; for St Louis and Charlemagne are on their knees before him, praying in your behalf. Besides, I can tell you such things as will force you to give me credit." She then, in the presence of the duc d'Alençon, the seigneur de Treves, Christophle de Harcourt, and Gerard Machet his confeſor, after having made them swear they would not reveal what ſhe ſhould tell the king, informed him of some particular facts which were only known to himself; this so much surprised him, that he determined on granting her request; and after taking other neceſsary precautions to avoid being a dupe, resolved to furniſh her with a proper equipage, and send her to the aſsistance of Orleans.

During this time, the queen of Sicily, to be aſsured of her virtue, placed her in the hands of matrons, who, after a most scrupulous examination, gave their testimony so much in her favour, that ſhe acquired and afterwards preserved the sirname of *Maid*.

The king however judged it expedient that ſhe ſhould first be taken to Poitiers, where his parliament then was; he himself went there; and as they were conducting her, ſhe inquired where they were taking her. Upon being told it was to Poitiers, ſhe replied, " In the name of God! I know I ſhall have much to do there, but he will aid me; therefore in his name let us go on." She lod-

ged in Poitiers at the house of one Jean Rabateau, and was put under the care of his wife, a woman of an unblemiſhed character. She was dreſsed as a man, and would not change her dreſs. Many doctors in theology, and other learned men, aſsembled at the house where ſhe was, and upon aſking them what they wanted with her, ſhe was told that they came to her because they heard that ſhe had told the king ſhe was an ambaſsadreſs from heaven, and advanced many weighty reasons why ſhe ought not to be believed. They were upwards of two hours with her, and much astoniſhed at the answers ſhe made, and how a simple ſhepherdeſs could make such prudent replies. Among them was a Carmelite doctor, very learned in theology, who having told her that the Holy Writ forbids any faith being given to such aſsertions without other signs; ſhe replied, that ſhe did not wiſh to tempt God, but that the sign which God had given her, was the raising of the siege of Orleans, and the crowning of the king at Rheims; if they would come there, they ſhould see the truth of it. This was at that time scarcely credible, and thought impoſsible, considering the forces the Engliſh had before Orleans; and that from Blois to Rheims not one place belonged to the French. Another doctor then said to her; "Jane, you aſk men and arms to aſsist you; now if it is as you say, that it is God's will that the Engliſh quit the kingdom of France, and return to their own country, if this is so, then there needs not any men or arms, because his will alone is sufficient." To which ſhe answered, that ſhe only required a small number

who would fight, and God would give them the victory.

After this the theologians consulted together what advice they ſhould give the king, and they unanimously agreed, ſo ſtrange did her answers appear to them, that his majesty ought to put confidence in her, and attempt to execute what ſhe had proposed.

The next day many of the principal persons of the parliament visited her, who before they saw her exclaimed it was deceit and fancy, but returned with quite contrary opinions. She received also visits from the principal ladies. They wiſhed to persuade her to lay aside her man's dreſs. Her answer was, "No doubt it appears strange to you; and not without cause: but it must be so; for I must arm myself and serve the gentle dauphin in arms; therefore I must suit my dreſs to the occasion. Besides, when I am in this dreſs among the men they will not have any improper desires; and I trust by this means to preserve my purity of mind as well as of body." Among her visitors was the master of requests of the king's household, who said to her, "Jane they are about to try your courage, and see whether you will be able to victual Orleans. This appears to me a difficult job, considering the fortifications about the town, and the great strength and power of the Engliſh." 'In God's name, (says ſhe,) we will do it, and at our ease; for not one of the Engliſh will make a ſally or even attempt to hinder us.' Her equipage was completed, and Jean Dolon was her squire; as famous for his courage as

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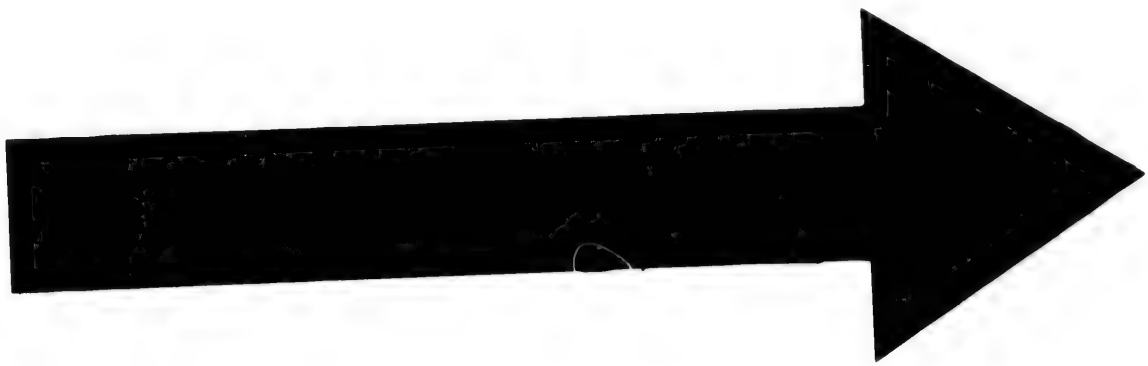

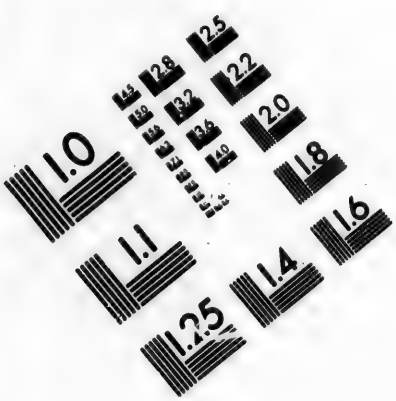

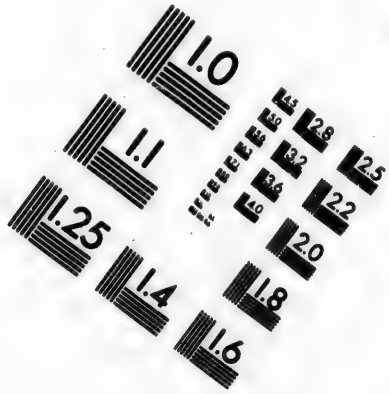

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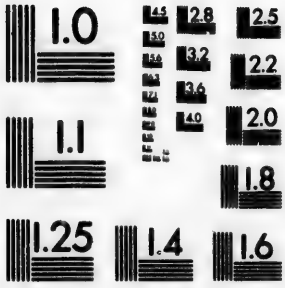

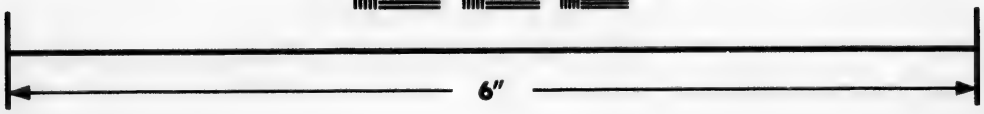

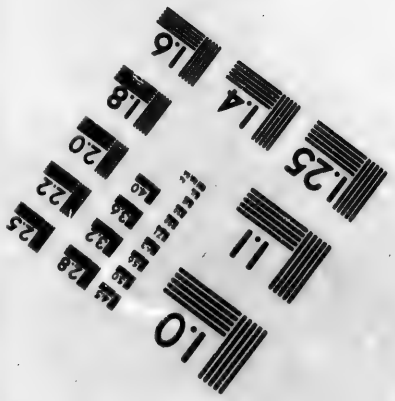

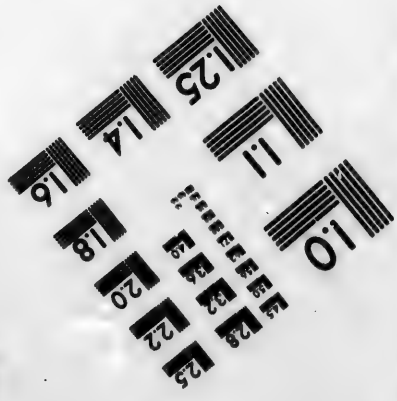

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for his prudence; Louis de Comptes, sirnamed Imerguet, her page; and many other attendants.

During these preparations, Jane asked for a sword which had been more than a century in the tomb of a knight, behind the altar of St Catherines at Feirbois. She pretended to have had knowledge of it by revelation, and that it was only with this fatal sword she could extirpate the English. The first use she made of it was to drive away the girls of loose behaviour who followed the army; but in the heat of the action, this marvellous sword, which was half eaten through with rust, broke in her hand. She ordered a banner to be made for her, on which was represented God coming out of a cloud, holding a globe in his hand; it was sprinkled over with flower de luces. Her helmet was surmounted with a plume of white feathers; her horse was of the same colour, and she surpassed all by her beauty, and the address and skill with which she managed him.

To be continued.

FRAGMENTS BY LORD BACON.

For the Bee.

Art of life.—Continued from p. 122.

* * * * As in the honest practice of that branch of the art of life which procureth abiding reputation in our families, in our stations, and in the commonwealth, there is great joy and satisfaction, so the reflection on such a conduct, and the sweet remem-

brance of having done what is decent and right affordeth a real and a natural complacency, *that will cast a gleam of refreſhing comfort upon the cloudy days of our ſickneſs and diſtreſs.*

But although it be true that the considering and recording inwardly that a man is clear and free from wilful fault and just imputation, and standeth fair in the esteem of his fellows, doth attemper outward calamities; yet it will require especial diligence and painful rumination for every man to form within himself a true judgement and a well refined and proportionate taste in life and manners, that he may not fooliſhly commend himself, nor expect the commendation of others for that which is not truly excellent and worthy.

If the sense of honour and reputation be directed by right reason, so as to have regard only unto the judgement of the wise and good, *obtained by real good practices*, it will furniſh a most powerful spur unto vertue; and contrariwise, if it is a vehement lust of the good opinion of those we converse with indiscriminately, it will lead into dangerous excentricities, and ſhameful enormities. For in many persons the sense of what is proper is very much depraved; and they have learned to measure right and wrong, not by the true standard of morality, but from false and partial rules, devised for other purposes than such as doe promote the happineſs of mankind. Now men are hereby insensibly accustomed to admire and esteem many things which are not morally good, and to condemn others that are no way evil.

Thus when corruption and mal practices prevail in a state, and the constitution of the body politic

hath lost its proper ballance, a man will be hated who shall desire to see these corruptions rooted out; and he who commendeth and fostereth the noxious enormities will be approved by all who either buy or sell in this market of abomination.

No wise or good man, therefore, will ever set any great value upon so low a thing as the ignorant commendation of such as know so little of what is truly laudable. He will steadily pursue, (under the regulation of the taciturn prudence we have heretofore sett forth,) what he taketh to be right; and as he will not be greatly lifted up with the praise of such as are under the guidance of prejudice, soe neither will he be much cast down when he is hated and evil spoken of by them, but will rather account it to be an honour.

It was a witty and apposite saying of that great Athenian, who in a speech having received the applauses of the giddy multitude, turned to one in whose judgement he confided, and asked him if he had said a foolish thing.

Whoever is so fond of general commendation as to make the opinion of the vulgar the rule of his conduct, cannot fail of being oftentimes carried into monstrous and ridiculous errors; and although he may by artfull and immoral compliances gain the applause of his confederates, and of such as be gulled by them against the general good, *he will be in the end despised and detested by all men, as having quenched the light of reason and vertue, and lied against the Holy Spirit of truth.* It is therefore a master stroke in the art of life to moderate duely

the love of reputation soe far as never to aim at it by sinistrous devices, or strive to obtain it by such discourses or actions as accord not with real conscientious conviction; and which, if pursued, will finally terminate in infamy and disgrace.

Another main spring of a goodly reputation, is in the prudent and happy ordering of common discourse, and in the choice of intimate companions.

In the ordering of discourse to give frequent occasion to the ſhewing forth of the wit and knowledge of thoſe with whom we converse, rather than our own; and not to puſh or jade any argument to the discontentment of the prolocutors, and still leſs to dart out ſharp speeches, that are picquant and go to the quick; but try to furniſh a pure and pleasing sort without bittern, and use satyre rather as a ſhield than javelin in the struggle of argument.

In the choice of companions to prefer such as have been of the acquaintance of your youth, that have no pursuits of ambition or profit of like nature with your own; that have been known to vindicate your conduct when your back was turned, and have animadverted freely on your conduct to your face. Such companions may ripen into friends, and thus bring a phœnix into your haunts, out of whose aſhes may spring in their children the solacement of your old age. Thus much concerning the art of obtaining and preserving a good name may suffice*.

* The Editor hopes his ingenious correspondent will pardon the freedom he has used in modernising the orthography a little, especially in regard to the common words, *be*, *we*, *he*, &c. One reason for this was the difficulty of getting it done without casual mistakes, which occasioned a disagreeable want of uniformity in the work; but the principal cause was that he has received several hints from correspondents requesting it.

ON THE FINE ARTS.

THE understanding of man is very limited, but his vanity is unbounded; hence it is that though he cannot be said to know any one object in nature thoroughly, yet there is scarcely a subject that can come under investigation, on which he does not pronounce in a decisive tone. We frequently aſsign laws to nature, and pretend to discover causes, to prove that certain things can never happen that we have not already had occaſion to take notice of. If, for example, Shakespeare had never appeared in Britain, certain philosophers would have had no difficulty in aſsigning reaſons to prove that the climate, or the ſoil, or ſome other peculiarity of this iſland, were ſuch as to preclude the poſsibility of our ever having a dramatic writer of any excellence in it. Any perſon who ſhall take the trouble of looking into the writings of the French philoſophers for half a century backwards, will there meet with whole volumes written to prove that the air of this country is ſo thick, the climate ſo variable, and in ſhort ſo deplorably ill conſtituted, as to render it impoſsible for any man who was born in it to have a genius for the fine arts, or ever to be able to attain even a moderate degree of excellence in muſic or poetry; but above all in painting of any ſort, which they aſsert has been, and for very obvious reaſons, which they detail with the moſt triumphant pride and ſelf conſequence, muſt for ever remain beyond the reach of the natives of this iſle.

But unfortunately for these very learned philosophers it has happened by a very strange fatality, that at the present time, in spite of these unanswerable arguments, dame Nature, in one of those freaks which she often takes, as one might say on purpose to confound *the wisdom of the wise*, has so contrived matters as to raise painters of this isle to the first eminence in almost every department of the art of painting. Gavin Hamilton is allowed, even by foreigners, to be at this time above all his competitors in the historic line; unless some of the English school dispute the palm with him. Jacob More, a native of Edinburgh, who was bred a house painter, if I mistake not with old Norrie, is without doubt the first landscape painter in the world; and at this moment, even while he continues to produce new paintings daily, his pictures bring a higher price than those of Claude de Loraine, who has held the first rank in that line for a century past. Sir Joshua Reynolds has raised portrait painting to a degree of dignity among the fine arts formerly unknown. By the elegance of his attitudes, the easy flow of his outline, and the unaffected though graceful simplicity which he has thrown into all his pictures, he has chastened even the taste of the connoisseur, while he charms the most ignorant beholder. Stubbs never had an equal for painting horses and other domestic animals; Elmer for dead game possesses merit of a superlative degree; and Wedgewood has introduced an elegance of form, and a delicacy in the mode of ornamenting even the most common pieces of furniture, that can be rivalled on-

ly by the disciples that he himself has formed. But I ſhould never have done were I to enumerate the various artists of the Britiſh school, who now claim an eminent degree of merit in the imitative arts.

Nature having thus belied the prophecies and fine spun theories of the French dictators in philosophy and science, they also have now altered their tone, and instead of attempting to prove, as heretofore, that Britain was incapable of producing a tolerable painter of any sort, they now discover that Britain poſseſses advantages beyond any other nation; and clearly demonstrate that the Britiſh school must of neceſsity rise to a supreme excellence in this art, which none other could ever hope to reach. Whether their prophecies in this respect will prove more true than their former aſsertions, we pretend not to say; but it is certain that our countrymen will be very willing to believe them in regard to this particular. For their satisfaction the following extract is selected from the last work on the fine arts publiſhed in France that has come in our way, not doubting but it will give very general satisfaction to our readers.

Extracts from the DICTIONAIRE *des* ARTS *de* PEINTURE, &c. *par M. M. Watelet et Levesque.*

The different Schools of Painting characterised.

A NEW school is lately formed in England. Though yet in its infancy it has acquired reputation by its succeſs; it deserves the applause, and ought to excite the emulation of its seniors, because it is dis-

tinguiſhed by an attention to the noblest branches of the art, excellence of composition, beauty of figure, sublimity of idea, and truth of expreſsion. It is hitherto known to us only by engravings; but artists who have seen the paintings produced in it, have aſsured us, that some of its masters unite excellence in colouring with the more sublime parts of the art. Their colouring is leſs glaring than that of the Flemiſh and Venetian painters, and resembles that of the Lombard school. Sir Joſhua Reynolds is well known by his discourses on the arts; and the print engraved from his picture of count Ugolino is universally admired. The lovers of the fine arts have also been enabled, by means of prints, to form some estimate of the talents of Meſsrs West, Copley, Gainſborough, Brown, *&c.* It is said that the Engliſh school has produced excellent painters of horses.

In each school the distinguiſhing character may be traced to its cause. In the Roman school it must be ascribed to the excellent education of its first artists, and the beautiful productions discovered amid the ruins of ancient Rome. In the Venetian school to the splendour introduced there by the commerce of the east, to the frequency of festivals and masquerades, and to other circumstances which obliged artists to paint persons magnificently dreſsed. In the Dutch school it may be attributed to the sphere of life in which their artists chiefly converſsed; they frequented mean public houses, and the work ſhops of the lower claſs of mechanics, where they saw vulgar grotesque figures, and were ac-

customed to the effect of a limited light, whether natural or artificial, in confined places.

Beauty must contribute towards the character of the Engliſh school; because it is so common in England, that it must certainly meet the eye of the artist;—if this beauty be not exactly that of the ancients, it is perhaps not inferior to it. The Engliſh school will be distinguiſhed by truth of expreſsion, because the liberty of the nation allows no restraint on the natural influence of the paſsions; and it will preserve simplicity, and will not be perverted by theatrical affectation, nor by the foppery of artificial graces; because the Engliſh manners themselves retain the simplicity of nature.

If we examine the portraits of Frenchwomen painted by Frenchmen, instead of expreſsion we generally find a forced smile, in which the eyes and forehead do not participate, and which expreſses no affection of the mind; but if we examine the portraits of Engliſhwomen painted by Engliſhmen, we most frequently discern a natural expreſsion of countenance that indicates the character of the person represented.

On drapery by the same.

VANITY is fond of ornament; true greatneſs is simple; and it is true greatneſs which a good painter ſhould represent. The physical and moral beauty of nature constitute the objects of his imitation. The perfection of art consists in making an Helen, not rich, but beautiful. The leſs a figure is charged with foreign ornaments, the more beautiful it will be, if the artist has true genius. A beautifu

woman, gracefully clad in simple drapery, will appear much more noble in a picture, than if she were loaded with embroidery, gold, and jewels. Sometimes, indeed, we see a king endeavouring to enforce his dignity among his people by the splendour of his attire; but in the art, the greatness of a king consists in his personal majesty; and this is what the painter must endeavour to express. Ahasuerus is less splendidly adorned and attended, but he is infinitely greater in the picture of Poussin, than in that of De Troyes.

Anecdotes of distinguished British Officers who fell in the Russian Naval Service during the last war with Sweden. By Arcticus.

For the Bee.

As my anecdotes (vol. viii. p. 201.) of a seaman of the last century have been so well received, possibly a few of some distinguished countrymen of this, may be equally acceptable, who met a premature fate, with a lustre that reflects honour on Great Britain.

I am more especially prompted to offer this little tribute to their merit, from the consideration that possibly many of these brave men may never have any other monument erected to their memory, than the volume of the Bee where these short notices may be inserted.

The writer knew personally, for a number of years, all the gentlemen mentioned here, one excepted, who went almost streight to meet his fate in the Russian fleet, without making any stay in St Petersburgh, as will be taken notice of in its place;

and he had the additional advantage of being informed of their respective actions and death from their surviving companions, eye witneſses of both. Britons, Ruſsians, and foreigners, all joined in the same story, with the trifling variations which their different positions in the battle must ever occasion; so that on the whole the facts are likely to be as authentic as most of the kind.

I ſhall conclude this little introduction to my anecdotes with obſerving, that although I agree with your right Chriſtian correſpondent Thunderproof, in preferring peace to war, and even in reprobating all but ſuch as are undertaken for ſelf defence, leaving the balance of power to be held by Old Nick, if he pleaſes; yet till that happy period ſhal arrive, and the temple of Janus be nailed up effectually, which I am afraid will not be in our days, I ſhall be always happy to ſee gallant actions, even in foreign ſervice, meet with their deſerved reward; a great part of which, to the honourable ſoldier and ſeaman, is public applauſe, particularly that of their country and friends.

Firſt.

SIR SAMUEL GREIG,

Admiral and Commander in chief of the Ruſsian fleet in the Baltic.

I AM not prepared, nor is it my intention to do more than merely name at the head of this liſt, our diſtinguiſhed and amiable countryman admiral Greig, who fell a victim in the career of victory (ſo well begun in a former war,) to that indefatigable zeal and anxious care of the fleet intruſted to his well known courage and conduct, which

led him to disregard the first attack of a malignant fever which laid him in the grave, in spite of every effort to save so valuable a life. He died October 1788 on board his ſhip in Revel, and was interred with all military pomp in that city, where her imperial majesty has ordered a marble monument to be erected to his memory, brought from Italy at a great expence, as a mark of her regard and regret.

The admiral's history before his entrance into the Ruſsian navy, (where his actions are upon record,) may be comprised in a very few words.

That he, like his great countryman captain Cook, whom he much resembled in humanity, courage, and serenity of mind on all occasions, as well as indefatigable exertion and perseverance in whatever he undertook, rose by exemplary conduct and profeſsional knowledge, from an apprentice in the merchants service, to an officer in the royal navy, and quitted it with the rank of lieutenant to enter into the Ruſsian service as post captain, where, it must be said, as a mark of his good sense, love of his native country, and the gallant corps he left in pursuit of fortune, that at the height of naval rank and honours bestowed by Catherine, and in all the blaze of Ruſsian chivalry with which his uniform was covered, he ever gloried in the title of LIEUTENANT IN THE BRITISH NAVY, and never would quit it till the day of his honourable death, equally felt by the sovereign, the service, and his friends; amongst which number, one of the most sincere, and who speaks from twenty years personal knowledge of his worth, was ARCTICUS.

April 24.
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ARCTICUS.

POETRY.

THE POET AND CUPID.

For the Bee.

THE following poem was transmitted to the Editor some time ago as an original, with a long, and not undeserved, encomium upon it. As he suspected it had not been originally intended for him, he delayed inserting it for some time. It is now inserted *verbatim* as he received it.

SAYS Venus one day to her vagabond son,
" Where so fast, you sly rogue, with these darts do you run?
" What unfortunate maid have ye destin'd to die,
" By the grace of a limb, or the glance of an eye?
" Is woman your aim? Prithee tell me the truth.
" Or hast thou resolv'd that some innocent youth
" Should burn by the torch that you wave in your hand?
" Tho' its flame be but small, 'tis a terrible brand."
The undutiful boy to his mother replies,
' What boots it to you by my arrows who dies?
' Or whom by my torch I've resolv'd to destroy,
' An unfortunate maid, or an innocent boy?
' But since, like your sex, you are curious to know,
' I'll tell you the bus'nefs that takes me below:
' A poet there lives in the air of Lambeth,
' Last Saturday night I determined his death;
' Not always I lie with my tears and my tricks;
' And I swear by the flood of implacable Styx,
' I'll roast him alive for my pastime to-morrow,
' For woe is my joy, and my pleasure is sorrow.'
" Tormentor of maids, and destroyer of men,
(Resum'd the soft queen, as she question'd again,)
" With your joys and your woes will you never have done?
" And when did the bard not invoke you my son?
" Should the Muses refine his susceptible heart,
" By your flames shall he burn? must he die by your dart?
" Ah, spare him!—but when were you known to hear reason?
" Tho' frequent your visits, they're never in season.
" Yet regard me for once:—I'm in search of a dove
" That one of my Graces purloin'd from a Love;
" I miss'd it this morn, and it certainly flew
" To the regions below with that hussey Miss Eu *.
" If the thief and the theft to my arms you restore,
" A kiss shall be yours,—or perhaps something more."

* Euphrosyne, or the Grace of the soul.

Her grief he regards with a laugh and ha! ha!
'Tis but little you know of the matter, Mama!
(Rejoin'd the young rogue;) don't you know it was I
Sent Phrosy to earth, with your dove from the ſky?
Sweet Phrosy, that same little huſsey who stole
From Hebe her grace, the soft grace of the soul.
Nor grieve, dear Mama, that the fugitive Eu
Gives one grace to earth, while the ſkies have their two.
Your dove ſhe conceals in the heaven of her breast,
And that seat of delight he mistakes for his nest.
To London they went, I directed them there,
And all that behold ſh.'' adore and despair.
The poet ſhall pray, but his pray'r ſhall be vain,
(He never knew pleasure who never knew pain,)
To-morrow he dies; and I'll barb ev'ry thorn
With the stings of her pride, and the points of her scorn;
In Laura's lov'd person strike home to his heart,
And Euphrosyne's self ſhall determine the dart.'

Clio.

A Modern Belle's Confession.

You may talk of soft paſsion, and love's potent dart,
To rob a weak maid of an unguarded heart;
Affection is poor, and love's dart of no force is,
Compar'd with fine gowns and a coach and six horses.

II.

Ye soldiers so briſk, and ye courtiers so gay,
Who think to maintain us on sixpence a-day;
A kiſs will not purchase or stockings or habit,
Nor the fuel of love roast a fowl or Welſh rabbit.

III.

Your beauty it is not, nor eyes darting fire,
It is not your wisdom, ye men, we admire;
By prudence enlighten'd, a huſband we wed
By the length of his purse, not the length of his head.

IV.

We laugh in our sleeve at the am'rous gallant,
While we drive to the altar, by way of a jaunt;
And if we repent, it has long been confeſs'd,
That in coach and six horses repentance is best.

V.

An equipage grand is the joy of our life.
Where's the woman for that who would not be a wife?
For myself,—in post chaise I would visit the moon,
And if horses can't fly I can mount a balloon.

H. Highflyer.

ON THE PRIVILEGE AND POWER OF JURIES.

Law Intelligence.

The King v. Robertson and Berry.

This cause is of importance, chiefly because of the peculiarity of the verdict returned by the jury, and the discuſsions to which that has given rise. The case was briefly as follows:

James Robertson and Walter Berry were indicted by the lord advocate for Scotland, of having been guilty, the said James Robertson of printing and publiſhing, and the said Walter Berry of publiſhing, with a wicked and malevolent intention, some time in the month of June last, a treasonable and seditious pamphlet entitled the Political Progreſs of Britain. Being brought before an aſsize, the pannels pleaded not guilty of the charge; and the whole facts and circumstances being submitted to a jury, the gentlemen of the jury, after mature deliberation, returned a verdict all in one voice, "finding it proven, that the said James Robertson did print and publiſh, and the said Walter Berry did publiſh only, the pamphlet libelled on."

When this verdict was returned to the court, the counsel for the pannels contended, that from the nature of the verdict given, it became neceſsary for the court to absolve the pannels, and dismiſs them from the bar, on this footing, that the jury had not found any part of the indictment proven, that could imply the smallest ſhare of guilt. They neither had found that the pamphlet libelled was of *a treasonable or seditious tendency*, nor that the pannels had printed or publiſhed it *with a wicked or malevolent intention*, but simply, that they had printed

and publiſhed the pamphlet libelled on; but there surely could be no harm in printing and publiſhing any writing which was not found to be of a dangerous tendency. The counsel even contended, if the jury had found the pamphlet libelled on was of that dangerous nature, could the pannels be declared guilty of a crime that inferred a severe puniſhment, since, for any thing that appeared, it might have been done with an innocent and harmleſs intention? The court demurred; ordered memorials to be given in to them before sentence ſhould be pronounced, and postponed deciding upon it to a future day. When that day arrived, they again, without any cause aſsigned, postponed it till another, and another, and another day; which gave reason to believe, that the court had met with difficulties it could not easily get over, hich excited the public attention in a high decree.

On Monday the 18th March, the court met for the fourth time upon this cause, and the judges separately delivered their opinions on this subject at great length; of which the following, it is hoped, will be found to be a fair abstract.

It seemed to be in general the opinion of the court, that since the jury had not thought proper to give a clear and decisive verdict, finding the whole matter libelled either *proven* or *not proven*, or finding the pannels *guilty* or *not guilty*; but had chosen to return a special verdict to the effect above stated: that therefore the court considered it in the same light as if the jury, declining to exercise the functions of jurymen, had thus legally divested themselves of that character, and had devoſved it upon the court, which was now called in to step into the place of the jury, and to exercise the same functions in this case as the jury themselves were entitled to exercise, while they continued to act in that character.

Hence the learned judges thought it came within their province to examine all the facts and circumstances that could tend to enlighten their judgements and direct their consciences, in the same manner as a jury might, and ought to do, in the ordinary exercise of their legal powers.

On this principle, the learned judges entered upon a wide field of discuſsion, some of them occupying one ground, and some another, as the circumstances struck their fancy, so as to produce a considerable diversity of opinions. One of the learned lords could not find in the Scots law any statute, nor in the records of the Scotch courts any decisions, tending to ſhow that the publiſhing a treasonable or seditious book was, either by statute or common law, puniſhable in Scotland. This he regretted as a defect in the Scotch law, which he wiſhed to see corrected, either by a new law enacted by the legislature, or by a new law made by that court. Another of the learned judges strongly reprobated the idea of that court making any new law, (the former judge explained, he only meant they ſhould give a decision that might serve as a rule to their succeſsors,) but adduced no examples to prove that any statute existed, or that any former decision of that court could be adduced to ſhow that they were authorised, by the common law of Scotland, to pronounce a definitive sentence of puniſhment in this case. Others of the learned lords, leaving this point out of view, proceeded to give their opinions as to the comparative degree of criminality that existed between the *printing* and the *publiſhing* any paper that was of a reprehensible nature. Some of them were of opinion that the publiſhing of such a paper was a crime, if a crime at all, of a much leſs reprehensible nature than the printing of it; and therefore proposed that Mr Berry

should be freed from all punishment; but that Mr Robertson should be subjected to the pains of law; while others, on the contrary, represented the mere printing as an act of no criminality at all, but the publishing, as a crime of the greatest enormity*. Upon the whole, it appeared that the court in general were disposed to be more lenient to Mr Berry than to Mr Robertson.

When at length it came to the turn of the learned president of that court to speak, he said, that the great

* It deserves to be noted, that in the course of the reasoning, where the learned judges assumed the province of jurymen, one circumstance that seems to be of considerable importance in this cause never was brought into view, *viz.* the difficulty that may have occurred to the pannels, even if they should have attempted to judge of the criminality of the publication. The jury had not said there was any thing criminal in it; and there were no doubt many persons in the court, even at the time of the decision, who, if the pamphlet had been submitted to their judgement, would not have found any thing criminal in it. We all know that every man in this kingdom is fully authorised to point out, and to reprobate in the severest terms, abuses in the *administration* of government, wherever these exist; and they might have conceived that nothing else was contained in it. If the criminality of the pamphlet had been very obvious, it was not to be supposed that the persons whose business it is to watch over the public tranquillity, could have required six months time to deliberate upon it before they could determine whether it could be reckoned of a dangerous tendency or not,—for so long at least the pamphlet had been published before any notice was taken of it. But if men who, *ex offici.*, are bound to watch over the public tranquillity, and whose business it is to understand things of this nature, were so much difficulted in this case, can we be surprised that men, acting in the ordinary course of business, could see nothing improper in this publication? It is the business of jurymen to take into their view every circumstance that can tend to aggravate or to alleviate the criminality of the deed libelled; especially in such cases where the *animus* alone constitutes the criminality; and more particularly in regard to those cases where no discriminate line can be drawn to ascertain the precise bounds between *praise worthy* and *guilty* actions.

question at that time before the court was, whether the verdict that had been returned by the jury was a just and legal verdict, upon which their lordſhips could proceed to give judgement; or if it was defective and imperfect as had been contended for by the counsel for the pannels, so as not to authorise judgement to paſs upon it. On this head, he himself had no doubt. It was a full and clear verdict, he said, including every thing that the law required to render it decisive and valid; and though the jury might no doubt have gone farther, and if they had pleased, might have made the verdict general, by either acquitting or condemning, and thus have left the court only the power of uttering the sentence; yet he conceived they had in this case acted with much more propriety, by confining themselves to the proper office of a jury, without incroaching on the province of the court, by merely finding the fact proven, leaving the court, as ought always to be the case, to draw the inferences that would neceſsarily flow from the fact. The libel stated that the pamphlet there mentioned is a seditious pamphlet; and the court, on the pleadings for the relevancy*, having previously determined, that if

* This word will not be intelligible to persons unacquainted with the law of Scotland. In criminal cases that are tried before the Court of Justiciary in Scotland, it is customary for the counsel for the pannels, at the commencement of the trial, to make such remarks upon the indictment as occur to them, as tending either to render the indictment nugatory, or to confine the puniſhment to the mildest part poſsible, in case the jury ſhould find the pannel guilty. On that occasion, the court, after due deliberation, may either quaſh the trial entirely, if they find the indictment such as, if even fully proven, would not be relevant to infer the pains of law; or they find the indictment relevant to infer the pains of law: and at that time they usually state to the jury, whether the law will award death in that case, or only an arbitrary puniſhment. It is this circumstance in the trial that is here

the libel ſhould be proven, it would neceſſarily infer the pains of law, had fully determined that point; the jury therefore had nothing to do with it whatever, and in the verdict they had returned, they had paid a proper deference to the court in this inſtance: that if the deed libelled was in itſelf evil, the committing that deed muſt alone be deemed a ſufficient proof of the *malus animus*

alluded to. To give an example: Suppoſe, in the caſe now under conſideration, the indictment had charged the pannels ſimply with "Printing and publiſhing a pamphlet called *the Political Progreſs of Britain*," the counſel for the pannels would have pleaded, that though the whole circumſtances libelled ſhould be proven, no puniſhment could be relevant to follow on any verdict the jury could give: and there is little doubt but the judges would have concurred with them, and would have thus diſmiſſed the cauſe as irrelevant. Suppoſe again, as actually happened in the firſt indictment with which the pannels in this caſe were ſerved, it bore "That the pannels had printed and publiſhed *a treaſonable and ſeditious pamphlet*, entitled THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN," ſtill the counſel would have contended, that no puniſhment would be relevant upon this indictment, becauſe the pannels had not been charged with having publiſhed this treaſonable pamphlet from *a wicked intention*; in the ſame manner as a perſon could not be puniſhed for uttering a forged bond, unleſs he had been at the ſame time indicted for having done ſo, *knowing it had been forged*; and there is reaſon to believe, the judges in this caſe alſo would have ſuſtained the plea, and diſmiſſed the cauſe as irrelevant. So conſcious at leaſt did the crown lawyers ſeem to be of this, that they did not chooſe to bring forward the trial on that indictment; or at leaſt, the trial, while the indictment ſtood ſo, was deſerted, under the *pretext* that the author of the pamphlet, who had been ſerved with an indictment *in due form* at the ſame time, had not been apprehended: and the public were diſpoſed to believe, that the *real* cauſe of delay was the above mentioned flaw in the indictment. At length the pannels were ſerved with an indictment, ſpecifically charging them "With having printed and publiſhed, *with a wicked and malevolent intention*, A TREASONABLE AND SEDITIOUS PAMPHLET, entitled THE POLITICAL PROGRESS OF BRITAIN;" and it was this indictment, *as amended*, that the judges had found relevant to infer the pains of law.

of the person that committed it: that as the jury had found it proven, that the pannels had printed and published the pamphlet *libelled on*, it necessarily inferred that they meant it should include all the particulars libelled. For these reasons, he was satisfied that the verdict was as complete as could be desired; and fully authorised the court to award whatever punishment their lordships should think proper to inflict upon the pannels. He then proceeded *seriatim*, to collect the opinions of each of the judges as to the punishment; who finally concurred in awarding the punishment to be six months imprisonment to Mr Robertson, and three months to Mr Berry; the parties respectively to find bail that they should keep the peace for three years, under the penalty of L. 100 each.

It deserves farther to be noted, that in the course of these speeches, one of the learned lords took occasion to remark, that it was often asked why the law lately enacted respecting juries in England, did not extend to Scotland? For the best reason in the world, he said, *viz.* because juries in Scotland were already, long before that act took place, in the full possession of all the privileges that act conferred upon juries in England. It was therefore unnecessary, and would have been absurd, to extend a privilege to Scotland with which it was already fully invested.

It deserves also to be remarked, that however much the opinions of the learned bench might differ as to other particulars, and however much it might seem to clash with some of the opinions above stated; yet they all concurred in admitting, in the most unequivocal manner, that the power of the jury extended to the cognizance of the whole of the matter laid before them; and that if they chose to exert that power, nothing could prevent them from

giving a clear and definitive acquittal or condemnation by a general verdict, either for or against the pannel, without a power in the judges, or any other person, to quarrel or gainsay whatever they had done. This was the only point in regard to which there was no diversity of opinion; and jurymen will do well to advert to this in future; because it affords a proper clue to direct their conduct in all cases where they ſhall have any doubt, and lets them know what is the only mode of inſuring a certain compliance with what they wiſh ſhould be effected.

The opinion of men and of judges reſpecting criminal juriſprudence has altered very much in every part of Britain within this preſent century; and from the opinions delivered in this caſe it appears, that it is only in regard to a very few particulars the law is yet firmly and decidedly fixed. Before the noted trial of Carnegie of Finhaven, the ideas reſpecting criminal juriſprudence were much leſs liberal than at preſent; but by the ſpirited conduct of Mr Dundas, the late reſpectable preſident of the Court of Seſſion, who on that occaſion, as counſel for the pannel, combated *ſucceſsfully* the opinion of the whole bench of judges, he gained immortal honour to himſelf, and conferred a favour on his country, that ought to render his name reſpected by every perſon who knows how to value the bleſſings of freedom and perſonal ſecurity. The libel in that caſe bore, "That Mr Carnegie had, *with a wicked and malevolent intention*, wounded the body of the earl of Strathmore by a ſword, of which wound he died;"—and in the pleadings on the relevancy the judges declared, that if the jury ſhould find the ſimple fact, as there ſet forth, proven, it was ſufficient to infer the pains of death. In this caſe the judges aſſumed to themſelves the power of affixing a degree of criminately to the fact libelled, which they contended the jury

had no right to controvert. If they ſhould find the fact proven, the court pretended that they could not deny the guilt. The fact, *viz.* that Carnegie had wounded lord Strathmore with a ſword, of which wound he died, was proven by the cleareſt and moſt undeniable evidence; but fortunately for the cauſe of freedom, the evidence was alſo ſo complete with reſpect to the *animus* of the unfortunate pannel, as to bring home the moſt unequivocal conviction to the heart of every juror, that the pannel had no intention of hurting lord Strathmore in the ſmalleſt degree; ſo that influenced by the powerful reaſoning of Mr Dundas concurring with their own ſtrong feelings, they ventured to deviate from the rule that had been preſcribed to them, and nobly brought a verdict NOT GUILTY. This event has formed an epoch in Scotland with regard to the power of juries; ſo that ſince that time, although men may be found who have endeavoured to impreſs the minds of the public with regard to the conduct that juries ought to hold, no one has been bold enough to venture to challenge their right of doing what their judgement and conſcience may induce them to think proper, however contrary that may be to the opinions of men to whom they would look up with reverence, where they did not evidently wiſh to exerciſe a power which the conſtitution of this country has happily veſted in other hands.

Juries cannot ſurely be too careful in preſerving inviolate thoſe ſacred privileges which the conſtitution of this country has veſted in them; as upon this bulwark alone we may rely with confidence againſt the incroachments of arbitrary power, more than upon any other whatever: nor ought any degree of miſplaced complaiſance ever to induce a jury to ſtrain a point to please any mortal breathing, or to put into the hands of another the *power* to

..ustrate the intentions they think in their consciences ought to be carried into effect. In doing otherwise every juryman may be considered as guilty of whatever crime may take place in consequence of his relinquiſhing that honourable post his country has for the time placed him in. It is not many years since a poor ignorant fellow of a recruit was enticed by two artful villains to go with them from the caſtle of Edinburgh, and after making him nearly drunk, they conducted him into the Meadows, where the two fellows that were with him robbed a gentleman of his watch and some money, and gave to him the watch as his ſhare of the booty. The poor fellow no sooner became sober, and found the watch upon him next morning, but having a confuſed recollection of what had paſsed in the evening, and being oppreſsed with anxiety about it, he went and revealed what he knew of it to his officer. One of the culprits made his escape, and the other became king's evidence. It was clearly proven that the poor recruit had been present at the robbery, and that part of the goods taken had been found in his custody. The jury were unanimously of opinion that the man had been inadvertently brought into that distreſsing situation, and had no evil intention whatever; yet, from some remains of that cruel doctrine operating in their minds, That if the fact were proven, this was all the jury had to do, they very unguardedly brought in a verdict GUILTY; but unanimously recommended the man to mercy, which they were then persuaded would as effectually save him as if they had brought in a verdict NOT GUILTY. The fact ſhowed they were in this case mistaken; for in spite of every poſsible endeavour on their part afterwards, the man was actually hanged. One who was on that jury, since then aſsured the Editor, that he would have considered himſelf as acceſsory to the murder of that in-

nocent person, if he had not all along contended that they ought to acquit him. Let no jury after this put it in the power of any one to prevent that justice from taking place which it is their province on all occasions impartially to administer.

The constitution of this universe, however, is so happily formed, that every evil tends to lead towards its own cure. A desire to grasp at power, as necessarily produces a counter desire in others to prevent that power from becoming immoderate, as a substance produces a shadow. Hence it happens that all the valuable privileges which we in this country so fortunately boast of, have been gradually conferred upon us by attempts to extend authority beyond its due bounds. We have every reason to believe, that should attempts of this kind be made in future, similar happy effects will result from it; so that should a temporary inconvenience be at any time experienced from things of this nature, these ought not to excite *extreme* uneasiness; they ought only to be marked with care, and a steady eye be kept on that point in future. Whenever an attempt shall be made, in consequence of any accidental inadvertency, to wrest the power from a jury, let that pass over as a thing of small moment, but let succeeding juries be more careful to guard their just and acknowledged privileges, by giving no handle for any one to interfere with their decrees. Thus shall the tranquillity of the state be preserved, and the personal security that every man ought to prize as the most valuable of his prerogatives, be guarded by his fellow citizens, in whose hands only it can be entrusted with safety.

The Self Rival, a Nouvellette from the French.

Concluded from p. 258.

This gentleman, who had never been known to trespass against sincerity, as he had given his word to his future bride, determined not to conceal from her a passion so very unexpected. He laid open to her the bottom of his heart, while she only feigned as much jealousy as sufficed to let him know that she loved him; and afterwards expressed such resignation and indulgence, and so much confidence in his fidelity, that he could not but execrate himself for having been capable of harbouring any sentiment to her injury. She endeavoured to remove his concern, by high commendations of his extraordinary prudence and resolution, in refusing to see the *Espagnoletta* unmasked, at the same time advising him that he should see her so. "That, (said she,) is the only way of curing you. To be sure she is another creature under the mask than what your inflamed imagination represents her; and should she prove to want beauty, you would soon forget her wit."

'No, no, (replied he,) there is nothing like shunning her; and this very evening will I beg of my father to put off our marriage for a few days, while I go into the country, where I make no doubt but I shall get the better of this freak; my esteem for you will not allow me to give myself to you in my present distracted state.' "No, no, (says she,) I will put you in the surest way to forget the charms of your Espagnoletta; for unquestionably your passion will be cured on seeing her without a mask. You may depend on it; for to tell you the truth, it is no longer ago than yesterday, that one, who knows her perfectly well, was talking of her, and said that except her eyes, she had not a single good feature in her face.' Still the lover in-

sisted on a ſhort ruſtication; but the father, who had got intelligence of these transactions, laid his command on his son to bring matters to an iſsue the very next day.

The contract was signed, and after the solemnization, the splendid company returned to the mother's house. Scarce was supper over, when in came a troop of maſks preceded by fiddles. The bride, who had feigned a slight indisposition at supper, requested her huſband to perform the honours of the masquerade, while ſhe withdrew to rest a while. With such dispatch did ſhe equip herself in her former habit, that ſhe entered the dancing room with another group of maſks, which followed soon after the first: they both consisted of some intimate friends who had been desired to form a masquerade for facilitating the execution of the bride's artifice. The faithful bridegroom, at the sight of that dreaded object, was for hastening out of the room; but the mother, catching hold of him, informed him ſhe had designedly invited the Espagnoletta, who was at a ball in the neighbourhood, to favour them with her company. "My daughter, (added ſhe,) cannot be easy until you see her unmaſked; as that will absolutely cure you: for ſhe is said to be even frightfully ugly." 'Ah! madam, (replied he,) all the faults of her face will never cure me of a detestable paſsion, which so many other charms have kindled; I have already imagined her more hideous than it is well poſsible for her to be, and am not a whit easier. Ah! madam, no longer stop me.'

While ſhe was speaking, the Espagnoletta, animated by this scene, which gave her inconceivable delight, exerted the utmost of her ſkill and vivacity in all the motions of the dance. He turned aside his looks from the irresistible temptation; but ſhe wantonly swept along close by him, which at once expelled his reason and duty, and he

forgot the presence of his mother-in-law. To complete his confusion, the Espagnoletta took him by the hand. This so overpowered his senses, that his mother-in-law taking him under the arm, he suffered himself to be drawn aside into the recefs of a window, without knowing whither he was going; and the mother set herself by them. The Espagnoletta then sent forth a deep sigh; and no more than natural: for by unmafking herself fhe feared that fhe fhould totally lose the pleasure of seeing her hufband so very fond. She loved him as much as he loved the Espagnoletta; her languifhing looks answered those of her tranfported lover. They looked at each other for some time, without uttering a word, or taking notice of the rest of the company retiring to another apartment, whilst the anxious mother's fluent tongue was giving her son-in-law an idea of the most distasteful uglinefs; that by this contrast, when her daughter fhould come to unmafk, fhe might appear to lefs disadvantage. The fond bride availed herself as long as fhe could of her hufband's mistake; but as fhe could not prevail on herself to terminate this scene, the mother at length took the mafk from the daughter's face.

The powerful effect that this surprise produced in the happy bridegroom, is one of those things the force of which is diminifhed by any description. Imagine the situation of a man of honour, conflicting with love and beauty, infinitely esteeming one person, and pafsionately in love with another, and who at length finds them both united in one complete object.

As to the bride, what must have been her ecstacy, that in so little time fhe had transformed an indifferent lover into an enamoured hufband, and brought the struggle between esteem and love to a favourable ifsue, which eftablifhed her felicity, and equal honour to both.

Thoughts on the present Bankruptcies, with Hints of a Plan for affording Relief to Manufacturers and others.

For the Bee.

At no former period in the commercial history of this country, has any thing equal to the present diſtreſs occurred, with regard to the univerſal complaint of a want of money, ariſing from the public and private banks having in a great meaſure given over accommodating thoſe engaged in trade and manufactures with the uſual diſcount of bills. This country has on former occaſions been preſerved from impending ruin to their commercial concerns, by the very liberal aſſiſtance afforded by the Edinburgh banks, to all whoſe funds entitled them to the public confidence. These banks are ſtill under the direction of the ſame public ſpirited and liberal minded gentlemen, who have certainly very ſufficient reaſons for their preſent caution in diſcounting, otherwiſe they would ſtep forward as in 1788, and ſupport all thoſe who could by a clear ſtate of their affairs ſhow that ſuch aſſiſtance would enable them to weather the ſtorm; and who could put ſuch funds or ſecurities in the hands of the banks, as would decidedly inſure them from a poſſibility of loſs.

It is well known that the Edinburgh banks have already gone great lengths within the laſt two months in their endeavours to avert the miſerable conſequences that muſt follow here, were the dreadful bankruptcies that have lately happened in England to extend to this end of the iſland. But as, from the nature of banks and banking, limits naturally ariſe to their iſſuing of notes to paſs as an equivalent for caſh, and for which the public can at all times command ſpecie by applying to the banks, it becomes a duty the directors of banks owe to the proprietors at large, to go no furthur in iſſuing notes, than experience has taught them can be ſafely done, according to the extent of their ſtock. In times like the preſent, when the hands of the manufacturers and of the merchants are full of goods, in conſequence of the very flouriſhing ſtate of the country ſome months ago, ſome expedient ſhould be attempted to ſupport all in that ſituation, who can produce good funds, either in goods, bills, or heritable property; and I know of none that can be done with equal eaſe to the banks, and the country at large as the following.

In the city of Amsterdam all payments of bills of exchange above 300 guilders must, by an order of the States of Holland of 11th December 1643, be made by the bank of Amsterdam, established 31st January 1609. The bank receives specie, gold and silver bullion, plate, jewels, &c. the value whereof is placed to the credit of the person who makes the deposit, with whom the bank opens an account, and who, when he has any bills to discharge, gives an order to write off so much from the credit of his account to that of the person to whom the money is payable, who, if he has no account open in the bank's books, applies to a broker, to whom he indorses the bill and order thereon, and receives the value in specie, together with the *agio*, the bank money being in general from one to four *per cent.* more valuable than the current money of Holland. In this manner the bank of Amsterdam, without hurting the interests of trade, has become poſſeſſed of the money of the country. No one is reckoned leſs rich by being poſſeſſed only of bank money, since without the smallest difficulty current money can at all times be procured for it to any extent.

This being premised, my proposal is, that the bank of England, the Royal Bank, and Bank of Scotland, or other public banks, ſhould receive from the merchants or manufacturers of Scotland, as pledges or deposits, property of every kind, and advance thereon a certain proportion of the value thereof; not in bank notes, (for which specie could be demanded,) but by following the same plan which has been practised near 200 years by the bank of Amsterdam; or of iſſuing certificates for a variety of sums from L. 20 and upwards, to be taken in payment of all bills or debts whatever.

We have been so long accustomed to see nothing but paper money in Scotland, that there can be no doubt of their paſſing currrent; but if there ſhould, an act of the legislature could authorise their being so. Should this proposal be deemed eligible, the regulations for the sale of the articles so deposited, and for the payment of the interest by the borrower, as well as the re-payment by the banks of the balances of such sales, the re-delivery of the goods to the person by whom they were deposited, and every other regulation relative to the buſineſs, could be easily adjusted.

MERCATOR.

*** *On account of the importance of this laſt article at the preſent period, acknowledgements to correſpondents are ſtill deferred. Since the above was ſo. we have learnt that Mr Pitt has a plan of the ſame ſort in contemplation, which may be conſidered as a proof of the juſtneſs of the reaſoning of our ingenious correſpondent.*

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTE

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 31.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME

AUTHORS.

FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY E
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LETTER IV.

Continued from p. 1

Sterne,—Shakespeare,—The Engli
the Bible.

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THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 31. 1793.

CRITICAL REMARKS ON SOME CELEBRATED AUTHORS.

FROM A GENTLEMAN OF LITERARY EMINENCE LATELY DECEASED, TO A YOUNG GENTLEMAN WHO HAD REQUESTED HIS ADVICE IN REGARD TO THE PROPER MODE OF CONDUCTING HIS STUDIES.

LETTER IV.

Continued from p. 162.

Sterne,—Shakespeare,—The Engliſh Translation of the Bible.

I AM not so much surprised at your fondneſs for the writings of Sterne, as disappointed at finding your praise so vague and indiscriminate. It is time, my dear, for you to learn, that in this world the good and the bad are so intimately blended together, that there is no poſsibility of finding either the one or the other pure and unadulterated. No man is so

perfect but there is something about him that might be amended; and none are so bad but we may find something belonging to them that merits applause. The great business of candid criticism is to separate the chaff from the corn, and neither to approve nor condemn by the lump.

Few writers are better calculated for captivating youthful minds than Sterne. Throughout his whole works there are interspersed many lively sallies of wit, many happy strokes of humour. Even the desultory manner in which he proceeds seems to be so natural to him, and is so well suited to the volatility of youthful minds, that it is, to them, rather alluring than disgustful; and the innumerable touches of nature so frequently recurring, and so happily expressed, give to his writings a charm that is ineffably pleasing. Without being able to distinguish what are the particular ingredients in this *tout ensemble* that please, they admire even his quaintnesses and eccentricities. They think too often that the charm proceeds from the levity and frivolity of his manner, when it in fact arises from the singular powers of his mind. To this circumstance we are to attribute those countless swarms of imitators of his *manner*, and the disgusting insipidity of these miserable productions.

A talent for discriminating human characters, and delineating their traits with perfect accuracy, is one of the rarest gifts of heaven; and whoever possesses that talent in an eminent degree, will not fail to produce performances that will obtain an high degree of applause, whatever may be their defects in other respects. Shakespeare, who possessed this happy talent

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in a degree superior to that of any other of the sons of men who have yet appeared on the globe, has, notwithstanding the innumerable defects that abound in his works, obtained a degree of celebrity that nothing else could ever have given to him; and which, notwithstanding the attacks of snarling critics, will continue to encrease as long as the language in which he writes shall be understood. There have been people weak enough to believe that if they could imitate Shakespeare in the irregularity of his plots, in the disregard of the much talked of *unities*, in the antiquated turn of his phrases, and in the low buffoonery of some of his scenes, they would be entitled to a considerable share of that approbation which has been so liberally bestowed upon him. They did not advert that it was his superlative genius which made him triumph, not in consequence of these defects, but in spite of them.

In like manner Sterne possesses in a very eminent, though far inferior degree, that rare talent of discriminating characters, and of delineating them with precision by light touches of nature, which ever and anon occur even in the most trifling scenes. It is this which gives to these otherwise trifling scenes an interest which nothing else could ever have conferred upon them. It is from the certainty of meeting with these delicate touches of nature, that the man of taste is induced to tolerate that nauseating affectation and puerility which is like to turn his stomach at every line: but miserable is the delusion, and perverted is the judgement of those who think that those pitiful quaintnesses of expressions, and filthy illusions, which so frequently occur,

constitute the eſsence of that charm which has captivated so many of his readers. The fate of his imitators has proved the truth of these remarks. They have all sunk into deserved oblivion. Happily the time is now arrived, when even the silliest of his admirers,—admirers to be sure who are unable to perceive even a glimpse of his true excellence, see the folly of attempting to imitate him in his execrable ribaldry. Sterne is in many respects the most detestable writer in the Engliſh language. In some respects he has no superior but Shakespeare alone. What pity that such fine talents ſhould have been conjoined with such a vitiated taste, and perverted understanding! It is a parcel of pearls kneaded up in a lump of ordure.

I heartily commend you for the ardent wiſh you expreſs of obtaining a knowledge of that which constitutes what you call chasteneſs of composition in the Engliſh or other languages; but you must not hope to be able to attain a clear perception of that at once. This must be the work of time and experience; for those only whose minds have been calmed by experience, and an attentive observation of the objects around them, and the effects that various incidents produce upon the human mind, can perceive those deviations from nature and truth, which constitute a bad taste in literary compositions. In the early stages of life, whatever appears to be brilliant, is thought excellent; whatever surprises, whatever seems to be beyond the ordinary course of nature, excites admiration at that period of life; hence extravagance is accounted perfec-

tion, and the wildest eccentricities are deemed beauties. By degrees the mind becomes sensible of the absurdity of such conceits,—in time loaths them, and gradually acquires a settled predilection for that modest propriety of expreſsion which leads the mind directly towards the object the writer had in view, without distraction or embarraſsment. It is this last kind of writings which aged men have dignified with the name of chastened compositions, and which they admire as models of perfection in literature.

I cannot recommend a more perfect pattern of this kind to your notice than the common Engliſh version of the Bible. The language is there at all times plain, simple, and unaffected; and the construction natural and easy, though the tone is grave and dignified. I know no performance that deserves so high a degree of praise, when considered merely as a work of literary merit; and it has happily given a stability and perfection to the Engliſh language it never otherwise could have attained. From the universal attention it has obtained from all ranks of people, especially in Scotland, even the vulgar there understand the meaning of most of the words in the language, so as to be able to use them with a much greater degree of accuracy than people of the same rank in any other part of the world. To this circumstance I imagine we are to ascribe the facility that people even of ordinary rank in Scotland find in becoming authors; and did they not undo in some measure the leſsons they have thus imperceptibly acquired in their youth, by attempting to imitate other more faulty models, which the changing whim

of faſhion has exalted into celebrity for the time, we ſhould probably have been able to produce a much more respectable list of claſsical writers than we yet can boast of. It is impoſsible for me to contemplate that performance (I speak here merely of the translating of it into Engliſh,) without feeling a strong emotion of respect and admiration for the persons who atchieved it, and viewing it as one of the most striking monuments of human industry and genius. Open the book where you will, and you find the language every where simple, grave, and natural; alike when the subject requires the plain tone of humble narration, or rises into the most exalted heights of poetic enthusiasm. Like every translation indeed, from languages of such remote antiquity, obscurities do now and then occur, which have been occasioned by misunderstanding allusion to circumstances, now perhaps for ever lost and unknown; but even on these occasions, though the sense may be obscured, the language is never debased. On no occasion does it degenerate either into vulgarity and meanneſs, or into affectation and bombast. As a contrast to this performance, and as a striking example of the difference between a modest chastened stile of writing, and that affectedly ornamented stile which I wiſh you to ſhun, you need only take up Castalio's Latin translation of the Bible, and read a few pages of it. You will there find a perpetual effort to dreſs up every phrase in the most ornamented manner. It is as if a man, instead of gravely walking forward, were forced to move in a kind of measured dance. Instead of that sober dreſs and stayed

manner which is so becoming for an aged person, it is as if a matron of three score were ornamented with flowers, and in the gaudy girlish frippery of fifteen, hobbling and stammering in aukward imitation of the childish levities of youth. Can any thing be more ridiculous or absurd! Equally absurd and ridiculous are those affected modes of writing, where the author by departing from nature endeavours to substitute artificial ornament in place of chaste propriety of expression. And though fashion may for a time render these conceits so familiar to the votaries of that capricious goddess, as to appear to them not only not absurd, but even highly beautiful; yet in a short while when the fashion changes, they then appear like the dresses of our grandmothers, ridiculous and disgusting; while those compositions which deviate not from nature, like the statue of Apollo or Antinuous, continue to be admired as long as they exist.

On these accounts, and many others on which I will not now enlarge, I warmly recommend the frequent perusal of the sacred volume to your attention. I may perhaps take another opportunity of developing more fully my ideas on the many other benefits you will derive from the study of the Bible, which the facility alone with which it can be obtained makes young men too much disregard. I have often amused myself with endeavouring to form an idea of the surprise, the admiration, the extacy that would have been excited among literary men, had that volume been, by some accident, *first* introduced among them. No power of thought can

reach, as I ſhould imagine, the univerſal intereſt it must have excited amongſt mankind.

Many perſons have expreſsed a wiſh to have a new tranſlation of the Bible, for the purpoſe of modernising the language; but you will eaſily believe I cannot concur in this opinion. Indeed I know of no innovation in philological literature I ſhould more deplore. I have no objection to as many new tranſlations as you pleaſe, and critical commentaries tending to remove ambiguities and correct miſtakes; theſe are proper exerciſes for the man of letters and the divine, and may be of much utility for illuſtrating the ſacred text; but let them continue as they have hitherto been, the private exertions of free men and nothing more. Let each of them bear that influence their intrinſic merit ſhall command, unaided by authority. If we may judge from the ſpecimens we have already ſeen of theſe, we may well ſay of our old tranſlation, that *take it for all and all we never ſhall ſee its like again.* In regard to our language in particular, it ſerves like ballaſt in a veſſel, to keep it firm and ſteady in the midſt of thoſe ſtorms which ſo frequently aſſail it, and which, without this aid, would long ere now have been torn in pieces *.

* In publiſhing this juſt eulogium on the *language* of the Bible, the Editor wiſhes the ingenious writer had taken more pains to guard againſt miſapprehenſion of his real meaning. It is pretty obvious he means to recommend the natural conſtruction of the language and the plain ſenſe in which the words are ſo carefully employed as objects of imitation, without confounding theſe with the eaſtern *manner*, borrowed from the original writers, in which the narrative is conducted; ſuch as, "And it came to paſs," and ſo on; to imitate which

In my last I had occasion to bestow a just tribute of praise on the claſsical remains of antiquity. There is no reason to believe that the writers of antiquity, however, were leſs capricious in their taste than those of modern times; and we may therefore suppose that many works were then penned which abounded with affectation and unnatural conceits, just as at present. But when the faſhion of the day changed, these writings would of course become antiquated and despised; no one would take the trouble to transcribe them; and as few copies of them would be made, these would decay and be finally lost. It is those writings alone which poſseſsed a more than an ordinary ſhare of merit, particularly with respect to simplicity and unaffected ornaments, that have been preserved; and to this circumstance alone I am convinced we must ascribe that superior elegance which the remains of antiquity confeſsedly poſseſs above the maſs of modern compositions. The same circumstance will tend to preserve the chaste writings of modern times to a remote antiquity; for purity of language, and natural ease of manner have a much greater chance of insuring this kind of immortality, than the greatest profundity of thought, or talent for accurate obser-

manner of writing would produce an affectation very disgusting, and directly the reverse of what he so strongly recommends. It cannot be supposed neither that he means to recommend the now antiquated phrase, "*which was*," as applied to animated beings. The writer has evidently thought his pupil was here in no danger of mistaking him; but when a critique of this sort is publiſhed to the world at large, there cannot be too much care taken to guard against mistakes.

vation. Just thoughts, where the mode of expreſsion is faulty, may be moulded into a more elegant form by succeeding writers; and then the original authors who suggested these will fall into oblivion. Hence then, my dear ——— if you ſhall ever have an ambition to become an author, and to have your name revered in future times, study to acquire that simplicity of ſtile which alone can continue long to please; and avoid, as you would do poiſon, those ſingularities of ſtile, and quaint conceits, which faſhion for a time blazons as the quinteſsence of excellence; for arſenic will not more certainly put a termination to the natural life of the body, than these will ſpeedily put a period to the literary exiſtence of those writings in which they abound.

To be continued.

Account of a School instituted at Madras, and supported by the voluntary Subscription of the Inhabitants of that Settlement.

Introduction.

For the Bee.

The plan was given and the ſuperintendance of it undertaken by the reverend Dr Andrew Bell of St Andrews, one of the chaplains there. We hope this laudable example will ſoon be followed by all our other ſettlements in the eaſt.

The particulars of the plan are more fully developed in the following extract of a letter from Egmore, Madras, September 13. 1792.

"THE conduct of the school, which is entirely in my hands, is particular. Every boy is either a master or a scholar, one to another; and often both. He teaches one boy, while another teaches him. It has a double advantage in forwarding their education, and saving the expence and incumberance of many ushers. I do little more in school than enact and enforce general rules and principles, teach the school master and ushers, and watch with a strict eye over their conduct.

"When the institution was founded, and I first took up my residence here, the native women, who had orders to bring their sons to be placed upon the foundation, considered them as committed to hard task masters,—given up to slavery, or immolated to an unknown and foreign deity, and went through all the ceremony of mourning for the sacrifice they had made. Now, they ply us with every species of importunity to have their younger sons admitted into the school.

"A temporary provision is made for the admission of the sons of living officers as boarders, on their paying about twenty shillings a-month. The institution is so popular, that we have already more than thirty boys, white and blue, of this description; though they are subjected to the same dress, diet, and treatment as the poor objects of the charity. And this I consider as the great recommendation and panegyric of the system.

"The boys on the foundation, when educated, are bound out to any profession, art, or trade, by which they may become useful to themselves and to the

community. We have already saved from perdition, and given to the world a number of apprentices, clerks, apothecaries, mechanics, sailors, *&c. &c.* We profefs to teach only to read, to write, to spell, and to cypher. But when a scholar has made a certain progrefs, I have him instructed in book-keeping, or geometry, navigation, *&c.* as he chooses to be a writer mechanic, or a sailor, *&c.* for hitherto they have had their choice of their profefsion. But the great lefson is, in opposition to the maxims and habits of the country, to speak truth, to give up deceit, to acquire an honest character, or as you say, to be good lads. The boys are attached to the school. I am not discouraged; but go on with redoubled exertion, expecting to be richly repaid by the succefs of my labours."

Notices of Tippoo Sultan and his Sons, extracted from the same Letter.

"Tippoo Sultan has made his second payment to the allies. In a letter to this government he expreſses strongly his sense of the very polite and kind attentions which have been paid to his sons. In speaking of his attachment to the Engliſh, he says, "That his eyes are opened, to all that none but God, and so great a *Sardar* as lord Cornwallis, could have opened them."

"To his *Vakeels*, who attend the young prince, I had the honour to preach lately, when they came to our church. They are men of a liberal and enlarged mind, and are all ready to acknowledge Jesus as a great prophet. *Gurrum Ally*, who is carried every where

in a silver chair, from which he cannot move, by reason of the rheumatism in his legs, was heretofore ambaſsador at Constantinople, and is a man of great political abilities, and of high character. It is remarkable, that though unacquainted with the language in which the serivce was read, he was deeply affected by the manner of its performance. It is not leſs worthy of notice, that of all the low train of these eastern princes, there has not been even a complaint of the least irregularity, or disturbance, or miſbehaviour.

"The princes and *Vakeels* gave a dinner lately at their own house, to lady Oackely, a few women and several men. It consisted of *pilaus* dreſsed in the Seringapatam stile, and of fruits; nor was wine baniſhed from the board. The boys sat at a little distance from the table by lady Oackely, who, on this and every other occasion on which I have seen them, seems much pleased with the vivacity and pleasantry of the younger and fairer prince, who ſhews a great ſhare of good humour, and a great disposition to please, being of a mild and gentle nature. The elder prince who ſhews more mind, is more silent and reserved; he looks of a stern disposition, and of a commanding aspect. We think we see the father in his countenance. Their pictures by a famous miniature painter here, (Smart,) are preparing at the desire of lord Cornwallis, for the father; and a duplicate, it is imagined, will be presented by them to his lordſhip."

MEMOIRS OF THE MAID OF ORLEANS.

Continued from p. 271.

The 29th of April 1429, Jane appeared before Orleans with 12,000 men. She wrote a letter to the duke of Bedford; but the Engliſh were so enraged at seeing a girl sent to fight them, that they put the heralds who brought it into prison. As this letter is curious I have copied it *verbatim* in the note *.

* " Jesus Marie, roy d'Angleterre, faites raison au roy du Ciel de " son sang royal, rendez les clefs à la Pucelle de toutes les bonnes vil- " les que vous avez enforcées: elle est venue de par Dieu pour recla- " mer le sang royal, et toute preste de faire paix, si vous voulez faire " raison, par ainsi que vous mettrez jus, et payerez de ce que vous l'a- " vez tenue. Roy d'Angleterre, si ainsi ne le faites, je suis chef de guerre, " en quelque lieu que j'attendray vos gens en France; s'ils ne veulent " obeïr, je les ferai iſsir, vaillant ou non; et s'ils veulent obeïr, je les " prendray à mercy: croyez que s'ils ne veulent obeïr, la Pucelle vient " pour les occire: elle vient de par le roy du Ciel, corps pour corps, " vous bouter hors de France, et vous promet et certifie qu'elle y fera si " gros hahay, que depuis mille ans en France ne fut vue de si grand, " si vous ne luy faites raison: et croyez fermement que le roy du Ciel " luy envoyera plus de force à elle et à ses bonnes gens d'armes, que " ne sçauriez avoir à cent aſsauts entre vous archers, compagnons d'ar- " mes, gentils et vaillans qui estes devant Orleans, allez vous en en " votre pays, de par Dieu; et si ne le faites ainsi, donnez vous garde " de la Pucelle, et qu'il vous souvienne de vos dommages. Ne pren- " nez mie vostre opinion, que vous tiendrez France du roy du Ciel le " fils Sainte Marie; mais la tiendra le roy Charles vray heritier, à qui " Dieu l'a donnée, qui entrera à Paris en belle compagnée. Si vous " ne croyez les nouvelles de Dieu, et de la Pucelle, en quelque lieu " que vous trouverons, nous ferions dedans à horions; et si verrez les- " quels auront meilleur droit de Dieu ou de vous. Guillaume de la " Ponte, comte de Suffort, Jean sire de Talbot, et Thomas sire de " Scales, Lieutenant du duc de Betfort, soy disant regent du royaume

THE MAID OF ORLEANS.

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The count de Dunois who commanded in Orleans, made a sally with all his garrison, in order to facilitate the entry of the provisions. The French, persuaded that Jane was sent from heaven to their aſsistance, resumed freſh courage, and fought with so much vigour, that ſhe and her convoy entered the town. She was received there as their guardian angel, and all the streets were decorated with tapestry. She was lodged at the house of Jacques Boucher, treasurer to the duke of Orleans; and although ſhe had been on horseback all day without taking any rest or refreſhment, ſhe refused partaking of a magnificent entertainment, and only ate some slices of bread dipped in a cup of wine and water. She lay in the same room with the wife of Jacques Boucher, with his daughter. When ſhe heard that the Engliſh had detained her heralds, and had made use of injurious language respecting her character; and that the count de Dunois had sent to say, that if any harm was done to the heralds, all the Engliſh prisoners at that time in Orleans ſhould pay for it, ſhe said, "Let them alone; in the name of God they

" de France pour le roy d'Angleterre, faites response, si vous voulez
" faire paix à la cité d'Orleans; si ainsi ne le faites, qu'il vous souvi-
" enne de vos dommages. Duc de Betfort, qui vous dites regent de
" France pour le roy d'Angleterre, la Pucelle vous requiert et prie
" que vous ne vous faciez une destraise. Si vous ne luy faites raison,
" elle fera tant que les François firent le plus beau fait qui oncques
" fut fait en la chrestienté. Escrit le mardy en la grande semaine.
" Et sur le dos etoit escrit: *Entendez les nouvelles de Dieu et de la Pu-*
" *celle.* Au duc de Betfort, qui se dit regent du royaume de France
" pour le roy d'Angleterre."

MEMOIRES DE LA PUCELLE.

mate them, said, "It was not blood, but glory that ran from her wound." In one of these excursions, as ſhe was paſsing the Loire with her landlord, Jacques Boucher, some fiſhermen offered him a ſhad, who said to her, "Jane, let us eat this ſhad before we go farther." 'In the name of God (says ſhe,) we will not eat of it before supper; when we ſhall have repaſsed the bridge, and have brought with us a GODON *, who ſhall have his ſhare."

The siege of Orleans was raised the 8th May 1429†. Jane carried the news of this fortunate event

* In a late edition of the Memoirs from whence I have taken this speech of the Pucelle, there is a note upon the word GODON, as follows: *Elle entendoit par sobriquet et gaufferie quelque Anglois.* Now I do not believe this; for in looking into the Dictionary of Old Language, I find two words which may answer to her meaning, though not spelt precisely as this:

Geddon, Homme riche qui prend toutes ses aises.

Godons, Gourmand, Gouler, Goinfre.

At first sight I thought it might have had reference to our well known oath, and recollected that at a town in the south of France, upon aſking if any Engliſh were in town, the answer was, "Non, Monsieur, "tous les God dammés sont partis."

† The following extract from a letter of the duke of Bedford to the king, is from Rymer's Federa. [Hague edition, 1740, vol. iv. p. 141.]

"And alle thing there prospered for you, til the tyme of the siege "of Orleans,—taken in hand, God knoweth by what advis. At the "which tyme, after the adventure fallen to the personage of my cousin "of Salysbury, whom God aſsoille, there falle by the hand of God as it "seemeth, a grete stroke upon your people that was aſsembled there "in grete nombre, caused in grete partie as y trowe of lakke of sadde "beleve, and of unlevefulle doubte, that thei hadde of a disciple and "lyme of the fiende, called the *Pucelle*, that used fals enchantments "and sorceric. The which stroke and discomfiture nought only lef- "sed in great partie the nombre of youre people there, but as well "withdrewe the courage of the remenant in merveillous wyse, and

to the king. As soon as she was in his presence, she knelt, and embracing his knees, said, "Gentle Dauphin, come and be crowned at Rheims. I am very earnest that you should go there, and have not the smallest doubt of your receiving the crown which is worthy of you." When the king and those with him had considered the great things they had seen her perform, with what prudence and courage she had conducted herself, as if she had been bred to arms all her life, and had seen how modest and pious her behaviour had been; considering all these things, those who before had advised the expedition into Normandy now changed their opinion.

Then the king and a few of his principal courtiers, thinking among themselves it would not displease Jane if they asked her what voice it was that she had said advised and comforted her; but before they made their request she said, "In the name of God I know what are your thoughts, and what you wish to know concerning the voice I have heard touching your coronation; I will tell you, that having placed myself according to my usual method when I pray, and having complained that what I said was not believed; the voice then said to me, *Girl, go go; I will be thy aid and supporter;—go.* And the mo-

"encouraged youre adverse partie and enemys to assemble here forth-"with in great nombre," &c. &c.

See also in the same volume of the Federa, p. 150, the instructions given by the Regent to Garter, King at Arms, when sent to England by him 16th July 1429. Also p. 160. *Anr. Dom.* 1430: *D. proclamationibus contra capitaneos et soldarios tergiversantes, incantationibus Puellæ terrificatos.*

ment I heard this voice I was marvellously rejoiced." She ordered preparations to be made for the coronation at Rheims; but this was not very easy, as the Engliſh were masters of all that part of the country.

About this time the conſtable de Richemont, who ſucceeded to that honour after the death of the earl of Buchan's anceſtor, John Steuart earl of Douglas, (and when he was duke of Brittany, after his brother's death, thought it honourable to retain the conſtable's ſword,) ſeeing the affairs of France take a more favourable turn, was deſirous of making his peace with the king. Jane was ſent to meet him. When near, they both alighted; and as ſhe was embracing his knees he ſaid to her, "Jane, they tell me you wiſh to fight me. I know not where you come from, or who you are. If you are ſent by God I fear you not, for he knows my intentions as well as yours; if by the devil I fear you leſs." She ſoon ſatisfied him as to herſelf and her intentions, and they both went together to the ſiege of Gergeau. During this ſiege, the Engliſh having kept up a very warm fire upon that part where the duke d'Alençon lodged, Jane came to him and ſaid, "Handſome duke, take yourſelf from your preſent quarters as faſt as you can, for you will be endangered by the cannons." The duke followed this advice; and he had ſcarce gone a few paces, when a ball from the town ſtruck off the head of a gentleman from Anjou, who was ſtanding in the place of the duke when the Pucelle ſpoke to him.

The French were about eight days before the town, which was as valiantly attacked as it was defen-

ded. Among the Engliſh was one of a very large size, armed with a very strong helmet of iron, who did wonders by throwing from the walls great stones, and overturning all the scaling ladders which were placed near him. The duke of Alençon seeing the mischief this man did, brought John the cannoneer, who placing properly a culverine struck him down. Jane went into the ditch with her standard in her hand, at that part where the Engliſh made the most vigorous defence; ſhe was perceived by them, and they cast a heavy stone upon her head with so much violence that ſhe was forced to sit down; notwithstanding which ſhe soon got up again, and cried aloud to her companions, "Frenchmen, mount boldly and enter the town, you will find no longer any resistance." Thus was the town won. The earl of Suffolk retreated to the bridge; but being overtaken by a gentleman called *Guillaume Renault*, the earl aſked if he was a gentleman? who answered "Yes," Art thou a knight? Upon his saying No, he knighted him, and afterwards surrendered himself to him. Baugency was afterwards delivered up on capitulation; and the Engliſh quitted Meun, leaving behind them provisions, *&c. &c.* They marched through Beauce towards Patay, where they were overtaken by the body of the French army commanded by the duke of Alençon, Jane, and many other principal commanders. The place they halted at is called *des Coyntes*,—when the duke d'Alençon said to the Pucelle, "Jane, there are the Engliſh in battle array, ſhall we fight with them?" She answered the duke by aſking him 'If he had his spurs?'

" What, (says the duke,) must we retreat and fly?" ' Oh! not at all; In the name of God fall on them for they will fly, and without stopping will be discomfited with scarce any loss of your men, therefore you ought to have your spurs to follow them.'

After these successes, the Pucelle took possession of Auxerre, Troyes, and Chalons, not however without some discontent on her part, as well as of other officers, against la Trimouille, (the favourite of the king,) who received from the principals of Auxerre, a large sum of money to prevent its being taken by assault. She thus opened for the king the road to Rheims. This town flung open its gates as soon as he appeared before it; and the next day, the 17th of July, he was crowned. Jane assisted at this ceremony in her armour, with her standard in her hand. Respecting this, she made an answer to her judges worthy of record. Being interrogated by them, " How she dared to come to the coronation with her banner in her hand?" she answered, 'That it was but justice that that which had had its share of the labour should also partake of the honour.'

The moment the king was crowned, Jane, upon her knees, embraced his feet, and with a torrent of tears, exclaimed, " Gentle king, now is the will of God executed, who ordained you should come to Rheims to receive your crown, to show that you are the rightful king, and that this kingdom is lawfully yours." The king remained but a few days at Rheims; he made different excursions, and in one of them near Damptrartin, as the people were singing *te Deum laudamus*, and other holy anthems, she

said to Dunois, "In the name of God these people are very good and devout; I should wish that when I die it may be in this country." Whereupon the count de Dunois replied, 'Jane, do you know when you shall die, and in what part?' she answered that she did not: that it must be the will of God; and she added, 'I have accomplished what God ordered me; which was to raise the seige of Orleans, and to crown the king; I could wish now that he would send me back to my father and mother, to take care of their sheep and cattle, and do that which I was accustomed to.'

The king went from Rheims to Crepi, to Senlis; and after having taken possession of St Dennis and Lagni, he besieged Paris. They forced the barriers of St Honoré, and the Pucelle, animated by her former success, voted to cross the ditch; but received a severe wound in the thigh; and her standard bearer was killed by her side. Her eagerness and courage were so great, that in spite of her wound she would have continued the engagement, if the duke d'Alençon had not forced her to return to her quarters. Through want of provisions, the king was forced to raise the siege. This was cause of triumph to those that were jealous of Jane. She again requested leave to retire; as her mission was accomplished; but it was refused her. The king ennobled her and all her family; that is to say, her father, and mother, and her three brothers, and their posterity as well females as males. He gave her for arms, a shield, *azure*, with two flower de luces, *or*, a sword *argent*, the hilt *or*, the point up-

wards, crowned with a crown *or*. The name of Arc was changed to that of Lys, and the town of Donremi where she was born, was exempted from all taxes, aids, and subsidies for ever!

These honours were soon followed by the most melancholy catastrophe. The English in 1430, with the duke of Burgundy, besieged Compeigne. Jane came there with Poton de Santrailles, the 25th of May; and in spite of the besiegers entered the town. The next day she made a sally at the head of an hundred men, over the bridge, on the quarters of John of Luxemburgh. After a very long combat, she twice repulsed the enemy, as far as the quarters of the Burgundians; but seeing a very strong reinforcement coming against her, she began her retreat. It was rather late to think of it: for she and all her troops were directly surrounded. Nevertheless, after performing miracles of courage, she disengaged her company, who fortunately re-entered the town. Jane remained at the rear, to facilitate their retreat. But when she wished to enter, found the gates shut. She directly faced about to her enemies, and charged them with a courage worthy a better fate. She seemed not to expect any assistance; for whether she had overheard, seen, or suspected some treachery, she was heard to have cried out as she passed the gates to make her sally, "I am betrayed." During the time she was defending herself with the courage of despair, her horse stumbled, and she fell. This obliged her to surrender herself to Lyonel Vasture of Vendôme, who gave her up to John of Luxemburgh. This nobleman, forgetting the respect that

a warrior ſhould ſhow to courage, meanly ſold her to the Engliſh for ten thouſand livres. From the moment ſhe was a priſoner, this heroine was forgotten. The king made no attempts to redeem her: and though at the time he had many Engliſh priſoners of the higheſt rank, he did not offer one of them in exchange for her. Were the very important ſervices which Jane had atchieved ſo ſoon forgotten!!!

This neglect of Jane, and the perſecution of Jacques Coeur, will be eternal blots on the memory of Charles VII. Upon Jane being a priſoner, the Engliſh made ſuch rejoicings, as if they had conquered the kingdom. Such a man as the Black Prince would have honoured and reſpected her courage. The duke of Bedford thought it proper to diſgrace her, in order to re-animate the courage of his countrymen. She had pretended to have been inſpired; the regent pretended to believe her a ſorcereſs. The univerſity of Paris preſented a petition againſt Jane, accuſing her of magic and heresy. Either the univerſity thought, as they imagined the regent wiſhed them to think; or if otherwiſe, they acted with infamous cowardice. This heroine, worthy of the miracle ſhe pretended, was judged at Rouen, by Cauchon biſhop of Beauvais, and five other French biſhops; only one Engliſh biſhop attending. It would have been very eaſy for her to have juſtified herſelf; but her defence would have been uſeleſs; as ſhe was condemned before ſhe was tried. She therefore thought of procuring her liberty by other means, and had the courage to leap

from the top of the Tower Beaurevoir, where ſhe was confined. This fall which ought to have killed her, only ſtunned her; the noiſe however of her fall alarmed the centinel, and ſhe was retaken. They gave a different pretext to this attempt, and conſtrued it into an act of ſuicide. In ſhort, for this and the other crimes before mentioned, ſhe was condemned to be burnt alive, according to the ſentence pronounced by the biſhops of Beauvais, Coutances, Liſieux, the chapter of Nôtre Dame, ſixteen licentiates, and eleven advocates of Rouen, the 24th May 1431; and ſhe was given up to the ſecular power to put the ſentence in execution. When ſhe was led to the Calf Market, neither the ſight of the ſcaffold, nor the ſtake, affected her courage; and ſhe mounted it as boldly as ſhe formerly did the breach at an aſſault. She ſat down very quietly, and was tied to the fatal ſtake, uttering only, "*God be praiſed!*" The fire was ſcarcely lighted when ſhe was ſuffocated, and after ſhe was burnt, her aſhes were diſperſed in the air.

Such was the end of this extraordinary girl, whoſe puniſhment will always be a blot on the Engliſh. Her mother in 1454 demanded a reviſion of her proceſs, and pope Nicholas v. gave the commiſſion to the biſhop of Paris, who eaſily found the juſtification proofs, which ſhewed clearly that Jane had never given the ſmalleſt cauſe of ſuſpicion of her faith, her manners, or her conduct; in conſequence of which, her fame was ſolemnly re-eſtabliſhed. Many different monuments were erected to her memory; and among other places, there was

one at Rouen, which from being the place where they intended to cover her with disgrace, became that of her triumph*. This monument having been hurt by length of time, the magistrates ordered a new one to be erected, and in a better taste.

The family of Jane existed till within these few years, in the provinces of Anjou and la Bretagne. The last male died in 1760.

By a petition from the attorney general in 1614, they took from this family its greatest prerogative, which consisted in the female line, independent of the situation of their husbands, ennobling their children. The illustrious Rollin looks upon this deprivation as deserving the regret of every good citizen.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

MALEVOLENCE to the clergy, is seldom at a great distance from irreverence of religion.

The variable weather of the human mind, the flying vapours of fancy, which from time to time cloud reason, without totally eclipsing it, require much force of thought to regulate sound conduct.

* An engraving of this monument, from a beautiful drawing transmitted by the writer of this article, will be given as a specimen of the taste of the times, in some future number of this work.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

As the charter of the East India company has nearly expired, it is of high importance to consider by what means the British nation can secure to herself the esteem and confidence of the people of Bengal, Bahar, and Oriſsa, together with the extensive population that has been lately added, by the termination of the war in the Meiſsore.

With this scope I have sent you a very interesting letter from a gentleman of eminence, who had an high command in India, was well acquainted with the country, and had no interest to pursue contrary to that of his native country, and of general policy and humanity in the good government of its extensive dependencie.

This letter you will observe by its date, and its reference to Mr Fox's famous speech on the India bill, was written with a view to be communicated to some of the leaders of the parties, that at that time distracted this country and nation; and its good sense entitles it to more particular attention now that higher considerations and more general knowledge of the springs of political contest in Britain have brought all parties into disrepute and have taught the friends of the country and of humanity to think for themselves. I am, Sir, your constant reader,

N.

Letter from a gentleman of high military rank, on Indian affairs.

Ever since Indian affairs became so much the subject of public disquisition, I have thought of writing the following letter, but was always deterred by the ridicule

that attends a projector of any thing new and unusual. But since the parliament seems ready to enter into some final determination about these matters, I would accuse myself if I did not communicate the knowledge I have acquired of these things by a very dear bought experience. I am sensible that a person who had an eminent office in India, without becoming richer for it, must in general be looked on as a very silly fellow; I therefore intended at first to have written an anonymous letter; but I reflected that such information could not be read with so much attention, as when it was known to come from one that had been at two of the principal British settlements in India, had visited several of the subordinate ones, and had sat both in their councils, and secret committees, and seen the secret springs that put many things in motion. And it is certainly worth while for any that may have a determining voice on such important points, to listen for a few minutes to one that had spent, in making observations, those years that others bestowed more profitably in making great fortunes, *per fas et nefas*.

Mr Fox (if his speech, such as we had it, in the newspapers be authentic,) has either been imposed on, or has intended to impose on his hearers, when he affirmed that lands were hereditary in India. Except houses in towns, and what may be called *church lands*, there is no heritable poſſeſſion of land; nor can you find betwixt the Indus and Ganges what we call a *laird*; all belongs to the sovereign. An opulent financier takes from him a lease perhaps of a whole province. For facilitating the collection of rents, this is subdivided to small farmers, and often many of their ſhares subdivided again; and as each of these sets of farmers must have a profit, the actual cultivator of the soil mus: pay for all; so that the lands yearly yield a much greater revenue than ever comes to the exchequer.

This puts a stop to all valuable improvement of the ground, the miserable peasant endeavouring to raise no more from it than just what serves to support his family, well knowing that if he ſhould meliorate his land, his rents will be raised of course. If he ſhould get a little money, it is generally hid in the earth, and the poſſeſſor often dies without revealing where his treasure lies: ſo that it is commonly believed that much more money is concealed in the earth, than what is in actual circulation. When oppreſſion becomes intolerable, the people have no other resource but to remove to another province, perhaps to the lands of another prince. It is true, that these migrations are more common among manufacturers; and I have known more than one of them in about five years that I was in India. But they are also not rare among peasants. A few buffaloes or goats are driven before him; his household furniture is in a manner nothing; two carts will carry the very materials of his house, and the labour of two days will build him a new one. By these frequent migrations the people contract not any affection for the *natale ſolum*; as many can scarcely tell where was the place of their birth; and their parants and near relations are scattered over the whole continent of India. When forced or hired to military service, they have no regard for the sovereign; and I have letters from French officers that were preseut when they changed sides by ten or twelve thousand at a time. Of the abuses that arise from the method of letting grounds, I will give you a striking instance from original letters that are now in my poſſeſſion. There fell into our hands a French pattyman (courier,) who had letters from, I believe, every one of the council of Pondicherry. These letters give an account that their governor had let for 150,000 rupees some lands that used before to pay 400,000; so here was a deduction

of about 25,000l. sterling from the public treasury. No body will doubt that the governor had a valuable consideration from the financier; and as few will doubt that Britons may be corrupted as well as Frenchmen.

For all these evils there is an easy and an obvious remedy. Let the peasants that now poſsesſs the ground be declared hereditary proprietors of the lands they now have in lease, paying to the sovereign, as a land tax, the same sum they now pay to the financier as rent. The consequence will be a great encrease to the revenue, without any additional burden to the landholder; the grounds will be improved to the utmost, when every man knows that he is providing a lasting inheritance for his family; the money they now hide in the earth, will be produced and brought into the commerce of life; every moneyed man in India will come in troops to lay out their money in the only place where they can purchase an inheritance; every one will, according to his abilities, build more solid habitations, which they could not leave without regret, and loſs to themselves; all will be filled with esteem and affection for a government under which they enjoy a bleſsing hitherto unknown in India; they will contract that natural affection every one feels for the town or village where he was bred up, where all his nearest and dearest connections are to be met with, and where he has rejoiced with the companions of his youth; the neighbouring princes will have no other way of retaining their subjects but by following the example of Britain.

As all my literary occupations can never produce any other advantage to myself, but merely a temporary amuſement, the foul copy of the original letter has, by a careleſsneſs usual with me, been mislaid or lost; you have

here the rough sense of it; so that if it is to be ſhewn to any body, it will much need poliſhing; and I know that I put it into a very able hand, for that purpose. But this my scheme can serve for no use, as people in power aim only at private emolument, or the support of their own party. The Britiſh poſſeſſions in India have grown too extensive. I foresee a storm that will probably soon rise from those quarters. Consider that the armies there are not supported, like other armies sent abroad, by money sent from the Metropolitan country, but by rents arising from the subject provinces; so that every popular governor has an army ready to be employed against whom he pleases. It is well that there have been hitherto only avaricious governors, that have aimed at nothing else than accumulating money. If either Madras or Bengal ſhould have an ambitious governor who aims at power, there could be no poſsibility of subduing him, but by the aſsistance of the other. If both at one time ſhould aim at independence, they may bid defiance to Europe. And if Europe will not trade with them, America will.

The peers who now support the tumultuous commoner are mistaken in their politics. If the democratical faction prevails, peers will become as insignificant as they were during the long parliament. Take it for a certain truth, as if it had come from the adyta of an oracle; or, if you please, as certain as if you had read it in Nahum or Habakkuk.

I presume, and hope it is needleſs to put my name below to protest duty, respect, service, *&c.* You know who is the only man that will draw up a scheme for the public good, when he can reap no good from it to himself.

Feb. 8. 1784.

FARTHER REMARKS ON THE SUBJECT OF THE PRESENT BANKRUPTCIES BY THE EDITOR OF THE BEE.

Continued from p. 300.

THE paper referred to was printed before any notice arrived at this place of Mr Pitt's intention of carrying into practice a plan for the relief of the country, nearly on the same principles with that recommended here. This appears to be one of the most beneficial exertions of the power entrusted with government that has occurred in our time, and will do infinite honour to the minister who brings it forward. I question if in the annals of past times, a single instance can be found of an exertion of any governing power equally patriotic, judicious, and beneficient; and it affords a fine example of the necessity there is for the controul of government, and the utility mankind may derive from it when under the guidance of wisdom.

The present alarming situation of this country does not seem to proceed either from the interruption that the war has given to commerce, as has been often asserted, nor to a slackening in the demand either at home or abroad, nor to ruinous speculations which so often derange the economy of individuals. The manufacturers do not allege that their orders are discontinued from any quarter, nor that the prices offered are inadequate; but merely that the state of credit is at present so precarious, that they dare not venture to let goods go out of their hands at the usual credits allowed; and that from the unexpected interruption which has taken place in the practice of discounting bills, their funds are so entirely locked up as to put it out of their power to answer the immediate demands that have come upon them. That this is the case is sufficiently

obvious to all, seeing it is universally admitted, that nineteen out of twenty of the numerous bankruptcies that have happened are merely stoppages, where the funds are more than adequate to answer all the demands that can be made upon the parties concerned.

This evil, therefore, originates solely in the interruption that has taken place in the salutary practice of discounting bills: and what, we may now ask, has occasioned this destructive interruption to discounting good bills?

It will not be difficult to answer this question. There is in general a certain quantity of floating cash in this country, which men wish to keep at their command, ready to answer any emergencies. This has been usually in Scotland lodged with bankers, at a reasonable rate of interest, a little under that which is given for money lodged on other securities for a definite time. This floating stock has been usually applied almost solely to the accommodation of individuals with cash accounts, and to the discounting of bills. Upon the first prospect of the present war with France, stocks having fallen greatly below the par of peace, and it being universally believed that the war could not be of long duration, almost every person who had the command of money, wished to avail himself of the obvious benefit, that this circumstance presented to his view; so that almost the whole of this floating stock was instantly demanded from the bankers *. This rendered it inconvenient

* From the great wealth that certain bankers in Scotland have suddenly acquired by speculating in the funds, many persons suspected that something of the same kind might have been attempted by the bankers themselves, and that this circumstance took up a great part of that capital which ought to have been employed for accommodating the public. If so, the public would have had good reason indeed to complain of them; but it is scarcely to be believed that when embarrasments occurred, and the price of stocks not falling, they would not have retired that stock very soon. It would

for them to discount bills as formerly; and this circumstance again made a greater demand upon them than usual for money upon cash accounts of individuals, which subjected the bankers to additional inconvenience.

Just at that *critical* time, the Bank of England, seemingly with a wanton capriciousness which deserves the severest reprehension, instead of giving that support to country bankers and wealthy companies, which the circumstances here stated rendered so obviously necessary, refused to discount bills, without discrimination of any sort. The consequences were obvious and inevitable. Even those who had very large capitals, from being deprived of their usual resources, were unable to answer, on the moment, the demands that came upon them; and were obliged to stop. These stoppages necessarily affected those immediately connected with them; and these another, and another; so that, like a house of cards, one falling brought a whole heap of ruins about it *.

be a very proper clause in Mr Pitt's bill to require every banker applying for relief, previously to make oath that he has no money vested in the funds; and to make it highly penal if it should be discovered he ever had so. Perhaps no banking company ought to be permitted to exercise this business without a licence; at obtaining which, such oath ought to be administered, and such penalties imposed. Nothing can be more destructive than for bankers, who are entrusted with the money of others, to be dabbling in such a deep and hazardous game as the buying and selling stocks; and the public ought to have some good security that they will not do so. I have no doubt but the want of such security, has induced many a person to withdraw their money from the bankers at present; and thus to encrease the evil.

* Some may perhaps imagine that the Bank of England would experience an inconvenience of the same kind here specified, and would not therefore have it in their power to grant the accommodation wanted. But it is well known, that the course of business is so dif-

In this situation, the minister, with infinite justice and propriety, steps forward to save the country. What the Bank of England *ought* to have done, he now finds himself obliged to do, or to suffer the country to be hurried *needlessly* into a state of universal ruin. As far as his plan is yet known, he seems to intend to give a loan to such banking houses, or other considerable bodies of men, who can produce undeniable evidence of the sufficiency of their funds to answer all demands upon them, of such sums as it shall be deemed safe and prudent to grant to each respectively. These notes to be issued in the form of exchequer bills, bearing interest from the day they are issued; for the payment of which interest, as long as they shall continue in circulation, together with the principal, the parties to whom they are granted will no doubt be required to give sufficient security. Thus will government, without costing the nation a single shilling, turn back into its usual channel, that circulation which has met with such a cruel and ill judged temporary obstruction *.

Nothing can be so ruinous to a manufacturing and commercial country as an interruption to the general current of circulation and credit, where that credit is not attempted to be stretched beyond the real funds of the parties concerned. Indeed it is this credit chiefly which has given to the manufactures and trade of this country that decided advantage they possess above those of all rival nations; for it is well known that it is neither the superior cheapness, nor excellence of British manufactures which gives them the decided advantage they possess above

ferent between that bank and others, that the very circumstance which diminished the resources of the one at the time would tend to augment those of the other. This is no place for explaining this peculiarity.

* The Bank of England, even in this case, will be obliged to concur in circulating these exchequer bills, otherwise they would soon be

others in foreign markets, but the long credits our merchants can afford to give. And what is it that enables our merchants to give these long credits, but the practice of discounting bills, which enables every one to have the full command of his funds at whatever time he may chance to have occasion for them. Nothing therefore can be so destructive to a country so circumstanced, as a causeleſs interruption to this circulation on which its existence so materially depends: and the present incident, which shows that it is in the power of *one* body of men, whenever they please, to throw the country into this state of distreſs, proves that in this particular branch of our commercial arrangements, sufficient care has not been taken to curb that spirit which the exceſs of power so naturally engenders. Hitherto the Bank of England, like the corporations of old, during the infancy of political societies, has been of great utility to the public; but is there not danger, that, like them too, the powers conferred upon it may in time become subversive of the interests of that very society for whose welfare it was instituted, and which, for a long time, it has so materially promoted? Let the minister, therefore, and the public, now reflect, whether it is not time to think of establiſhing some kind of counterpoiſe to this enormous body, which, like the serpent that sprung from Aaron's rod, seems at present to poſseſs the power of swallowing up all others of the same kind, whenever it ſhall please to do so. Man is a fallible creature, and power when unchecked is ever in danger of degenerating into despotism. Monopolies in a trading country are always pernicious. But where is there such a monopoly as

greatly depreciated; but it is not to be supposed, powerful as they are, they will dare to refuse this. It would be kicking against the pricks indeed, ſhould they decline it; and would soon bring the matter to an iſsue between them and the country.

the Bank of England*, ought it not to have a rival? It would be presumption in me to pretend to say in what manner this rival ſhould be created; but it requires no ſuperior talents to say that ſuch a rival would be the moſt effectual check that ever could be given to operations ſimilar to thoſe which have ſo needleſsly thrown this country into its preſent very diſtreſsing embarraſsments.

Sir, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

If Dr A. thinks the inclosed trifle will tend to forward inquiries on the ſubject treated of, by inducing gentlemen going abroad to ſend home ſpecimens of ſand to their correſpondent here, he will probably be able to ſpare a corner for it in the Bee. After the conchologiſt has ſatisfied himſelf as to the ſhells found in the ſand, a chemical analyſis might be tried for aſcertaining if any metallic ſubſtances are mixed with it; by which means

* It is juſtly reckoned a crime of a very deep dye to impeach the credit of any individual; becauſe that may, almoſt in any caſe, occaſion a run upon that perſon which may naturally produce a ſtoppage and conſequent derangement of affairs. But is it not obvious that by the practice purſued on this occaſion by the Bank of England, the credit of almoſt all the principal trading and manufacturing houſes in Britain have been impeached, and a general run produced upon them; and ſtoppage, with all its diſmal conſequences, has neceſsarily followed? A public banking company ought to be conſidered as a ſervant of the public, which, like an innkeeper, is bound to accommodate all perſons without diſtinction, who apply for it, and have evidently the means in their power of diſcharging their ſcores. They ought indeed to have a right of diſcriminating and of demanding a reaſonable ſecurity where ever danger is apprehended; but on no occaſion ought they to be allowed, I ſhould think, capriciouſly to adopt a meaſure of ſuch vaſt importance in its conſequences, and without diſcrimination to effect a general ſtop in the circulation of the wealth of the nation.

some curious diſcoveries might be made, were ſpecimens procured from various quarters of the world.

April 1793.

Minute and rare ſhells in ſand.

The firſt diſcovery of minute ſhells in ſand, originates with Mr Boys of Sandwich, in the county of Kent; and ninety of them are engraved, and a deſcription of them publiſhed by George Walker in Feverſham.

His method of examining them was thus: He placed ſmall portions of the ſand under Dr Withering's botanical miſcroſcope, in order to ſeparate the ſhells from the ſand, and afterwards proceeded to enlarge every ſingle ſhell with greater magnifiers, in order to take his drawings of them with mere preciſion. To facilitate the more eaſy diſcovery of theſe minute objects, after the ſand is perfectly dry put an handful of it on an open ſheet of paper, and gently ſhake it from ſide to ſide; by which means the minute ſhells being lighter than the ſand are ſeparated from and lie above it, and are thereby much more expeditiously procured, than by any other method. The objects for inſpection ſhould be placed in a ſituation free from ſudden blaſts of air, to prevent their being blown away; a careleſs breathing or cough being frequently the cauſe of their being loſt. Moſt ſand contains a greater or leſs variety of minute ſhells; and the inquirer ſhould not be diſcouraged although ſome parcels of ſand are found to contain none, or at leaſt only the moſt common kinds.

The ſand examined by Mr Boys was that of Sandwich in Kent, and from thence to Feverſham and Sheppy Iſland, and a number of ſhells heretofore unknown added to the Britiſh Conchology, equal to nearly one half of all the engraved Engliſh ſeries—a ſufficient inducement to

gentlemen of a philosophic turn of mind, and who are admirers of the beautiful works of our beneficent Creator, to employ occasionally a few hours in similar researches.

Besides ſhells, some specimens of sand are found to contain minute varieties of the echinus or sea urchin, also the asterias or star fiſh; on sea weeds and corallins small ſhells are often found adhering which are not to be met with in any other ſituation.

We would therefore suggest the propriety of preserving specimens of sand found in all the different places which the naturalist has an opportunity of visiting. Before the specimen is laid aside for further examination it ſhould be gently dried either in the sun or before a fire. Chip boxes, or phial bottles, ſhould be employed for keeping the sand, to prevent the ſhells being cruſhed, and the name of the place where found written on a slip of paper put in along with the sand.

In a packet received this day, May 4. by post from Ruſsia, the Editor is favoured with the following obliging communication.

Extract of a letter from Dr Pallas dated Nov. 3. 1792.

"Had there been an opportunity of sending any thing to Britain, I could make up a parcel. In my journey to Astrahon, I will certainly collect for the Bee whatever economical curiosities I can."

Farther extracts in our next.

To Correspondents.

Both the copies of verses by *A. L.* are received, and under consideration. They ſhall be duly taken care of.

The critique by *Frost*, is indeed too snell for the occasion, though it is not without foundation; an opportunity will be embraced on some future occasion to do justice to his remarks, in the Index Indicatorus.

The anecdote by a *Scotsman* is received, and ſhall have due attention paid to it.

Both the communications by *G. R. H.* are received and ſhall be duly attended to as soon as poſsible.

The benevolent proposal by *Humanus*, for establiſhing an institution for succouring sailors in danger of ſhipwreck, is received; and every aid the Editor can give for promoting the plan ſhall be affordded. It ſhall be printed with the first convenience.

The Editor is much obliged to *Zora junior* for the trouble he has taken in sending the account of the Hamster. The peculiarity he describes is now very generally known; and the figure is so bad that no use can be made of it. Some proper opportunity will be taken to specify the peculiarity to the readers of the Bee.

Thanks to *Asiaticus* for the trouble he has taken in transcribing the eastern tale; which shall have a place when an opportunity offers.

The verses by *B. C.* having accidentally been mislaid were not sooner acknowledged.

The communication by *Curiosus junior* is received, as also the former one. It is expected next week to be able to take more particular notice of it.

The communication by *Hurry Post* is under consideration. He will be sensible it is not quite suitable for many of the readers of the Bee.

The address by *Cosmopolitan*, it is thought may now be deemed unnecessary. The other communications may have a place when a spare corner offers for them. It was impossible to insert any of them at the time he expected.

The letter by *Tibius* is received, and under consideration. The subject treated of by *I. M—n* has been so often agitated, that it is difficult to say any thing new upon it; but the Editor will try to introduce the substance of the hints he throws out in one way or other.

The paper by *W. R.* is received, and will be more particularly noticed on some other occasion.

The short poems by *Physicophilologus* are received, and some of them shall soon appear.

The verses by *Y. Z.* are received.

The *Epitaph* by a *Constant Reader* is received, and though the poetry is of the usual class of such compositions, to please him it shall have a place.

The hints by *R.* are received.

W. E. has forgot the promise he made with his last communication.

Acknowledgements to correspondents deferred.

To the Readers of the Bee.

The Editor of this work earnestly requests that all those of his subscribers whose accounts are of considerable standing, to discharge them as soon as possible.

All persons empowered to collect monies for this publication to whom payments have been made, would greatly oblige him by transmitting the sums received, and the names of the subscribers who have paid.

While every grateful acknowledgement is due to those whose punctuality has enabled the Editor thus far to continue the publication, he is obliged to observe that so great is the expense attending its prosecution, and so large the amount of arrear that unless a considerable part of that amount is speedily realised, it will be impossible for him to continue the Bee with any reference to a distant and extensive circulation.

He requests his readers in the remote parts of Scotland, to embrace the opportunity that now occurs, of making remittances by the clergy who will soon be coming to Edinburgh to attend the General Assembly.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27. 1793.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

NOTHING can be more precarious than the fortune of war. For some months past the arms of France were crowned with succeſs in all quarters, and the neighbouring nations began to tremble for their ſafety. One conquest was followed by another; and as they advanced, they ſucceſsively annexed the dominions they had over-run to that of France, under the alluring names of freedom and equality. Some nations acknowledged the authority of the present powers of France; and others temporised, in order to avoid being subjected to the severe scourge of war and pillage. Among the first were Sweden and Tuscany; and Venice, with her wonted policy, declared ſhe would acknowledge the powers in France, when the other powers in Europe recognised them; and, in the mean while, would preserve the strictest neutrality, and treat France as the most favoured nation.

But while hopes of extended conquests swelled the bosom of the subjects of that new republic; and while the rapid progreſs of Dumourier in the United Provinces gave them reason to believe, that the conquest of that country was so certain, as to authorise the National Convention to decree in what manner the property of the Stadholder, heritable and moveable, ſhould be disposed of; one post brought such an accumulation of news, as totally blasted these fairs prospects, and reversed the apparent state of things. Breda had already been given up to the succeſsful arms of Dumourier,—not without suspicion of treachery; Klundart, a small fort, had been carrried by aſsault; and Gertrudenburg surrendered by capitulation. Williamstadt was closely besieged; and Heusden, and *Bois le duc*, and Bergenopzoom, threatened. In this situation news were received that a decisive victory had been obtained over the French at Aix la Chapelle;—that they had been driven from Leige, in which the magazines for carrying on the operations on the upper Maese and the Rhine had been formed, all of which fell into the hands of the enemy;—that the French were driven from the neighbourhood of Venlob; and Ruremonde taken, in which their magazines for the operations in Guelderland, had been formed;—that the seige of Maestricht had been raised, and the French driven backwards towards Bruſsels. To complete the disastrous catalogue, the same post brought an account that the French fleet under Truguet had made an unsuccesſsful attempt upon Cagliari in Sardinia, from whence it had been beat off, with with great loſs; and the

squadron had returned to Toulon, in a distreſsed condition, without effecting the object for which it had been fitted out.

Since that time all these pieces of news have been confirmed; together with the additional circumstances that the French had been attacked in their retreat near Tongres, and again routed;—that all the different armies that had been driven from the places above named, had formed a junction near to Louvain;—that general Dumourier had withdrawn the bulk of his army from Dutch Brabant, and marched them towards Antwerp, leaving a detachment to puſh the seige of Williamstadt, and to cover his retreat;—that while this small fort was thus vigorously attacked, and as vigorously defended, Dumourier himself had puſhed forward towards the united French armies, and having aſsumed the command, had withdrawn them off from Louvain, and had occupied a strong post between that town and Bruſsels, called the *Iron Mountain*, where he seems to repair, to wait the attack of the combined forces of Germany which are advancing against him;—and finally, that the siege of Williamstadt had been raised;—that the seige of Heusden, which was threatened, had been abandoned;—that the fort of Klundart and Gertrudenburgh had been evacuated;—that the cannon the French could not carry off, had been thrown into the canals;—and that the French troops were all marching southward with the greatest expedition;—that 12,000 Pruſsians had reached Bois le duc, and were preparing to march directly towards Breda, which they are in full hopes of recovering in a ſhort time.

Such was the situation of things in the middle of last week, in the Low Countries. On the Rhine, Custine still keeps poſseſsion of Mentz; but by the last post an account has been received of the capture of Konigstein; so that there is every reason to believe that Mentz must soon fall, and the retreat of Custine be entirely cut off. Reports also prevail, with much appearance of probability, that Dumourier has been defeated near Louvain, that his army is disbanded, and flying in every direction, in the utmost fear and consternation. A large body of fugitives reached Dunkirk, and brought this news.

No words can be found to describe the consternation that prevailed in Paris on the receipt of these disastrous news. That ill fated town had been lately threatened with an insurrection on account of the alleged scarcity of bread, which had been with difficulty allayed. Lyons, ever since receiving the news of the death of the king, had been in a state of rebellious ferment, which had not fully subsided. The National Convention had been haraſsed with daily accounts of riots and insurrections in various parts of the kingdom, on account of the scarcity of corn. Many of its members had been dispatched as commiſsioners to quell these multiplied disturbances. In this situation, the news of these disasters produced a kind of desperation of mind. The generals, the ministers, the members of the Convention, were summarily

and tumultuously accused of treason by each other. Bournonville, minister at war, having been called to the bar of National Convention, was forced to to read the following letter.

LETTER FROM THE COMMISSIONERS SENT TO BELGIUM.

" CITIZENS OUR COLLEAGUES, *Liege, March* 3. 1793.

" As you will have laid before you the letter which we have addreſsed to the National Convention, we ſhall not here repeat the contents of it. But we muſt add, that every thing is in a moſt alarming ſituation; that the army which retired from Aix la Chappelle, and the environs, is almoſt entirely disbanded; that the enemy will perhaps to-morrow, or perhaps this evening, be in Leige,—in Leige where all our proviſions are collected, and which contains immenſe treaſures! We give this account from the information of general Valence, at whoſe houſe we now write. He aſſures us that if Dumourier himſelf does not arrive, he cannot anſwer for the conſequences.

" We are endeavouring to rally the fugitives, and are uſing our utmoſt endeavours with the proviſional adminiſtration and the citizens, that the people of Leige may ſecond us, and ſupply the wants of our army. The dangers reſulting from this want are ſo much the greater, as the enemy are very ſtrong in cavalry, while we have ſcarcely any at all.

(Signed) DELACROIX GOUSSIN,
MERLIN DE DOUAY."

But he denied that things could be in the ſituation the commiſſioners had repreſented it; and ſaid he had given orders to Dumourier to march directly to lay ſeige to Maeſtricht in form. Without doors the ferment was not leſs, as will appear by the following addreſs.

PROCLAMATION BY THE COMMUNE OF PARIS.

" *To arms citizens! to arms! If you delay, all is loſt.* A great part of the republic is over-run; Aix la Chapelle, Leige, Bruſsels, muſt be in the poſſeſſion of the enemy; the heavy artillery, the baggage, the treaſure of the army, are retreating with precipitation to Valenciennes, the only place that can ſtop the enemy for a moment. What cannot follow will be thrown into the Meuſe. Dumourier is making conqueſts in Holland; but, if not ſupported by conſiderable forces, Dumourier, and with him the flower of the French armies, may be ſwallowed up.

" Pariſians! behold the greatneſs of the danger; will you permit the enemy again to lay waſte the land of Liberty, and to burn your towns and villages?

" Pariſians! it is againſt you in particular that this abominable war is directed; it is your wives and children that are to be maſſacred; it is Paris that is to be reduced to aſhes; recollect that the inſolent Brunſwick has ſworn not to leave one ſtone on another.

" Pariſians! once more ſave the commonwealth, give an example once more; ariſe, arm, march, and theſe bands of ſlaves will again give way before you.

" It is neceſsary to make a great effort, a terrible ſtroke, a laſt blow! This campaign muſt decide the fate of the world; we muſt diſmay, we muſt

exterminate kings! Men of the 4th of July, of the 5th of October; men of the 10th of August, awake!

"Your brethren, your children, pursued by the enemy, surrounded, perhaps, call to you! Your brethren, your children, massacred on the 10th of August, on the plains of Champagne, under the smoaking ruins of Lisle; your brethren slain at Jemappe;—Arise! they must be revenged!

"Let all the arms be carried into the sections; let every citizen meet there; let us swear to save our country; let us save it. Misfortune light on him who shall hesitate! Let to-morrow thousands of men leave Paris. This is the deadly combat between men and kings; between bondage and liberty.

PACHE Mayor
COLOMEAU, Secretary."

Marat, Roberspierre, and the rest of that sanguinary party, were not idle on this occasion. Attempts were made to shut the barriers, which was generally believed to be the certain signal for another massacre, but by the vigilance of the magistrates and Santerre, the commander in chief in Paris, that was happily prevented; so that a temporary tranquillity was once more established.

A short while ago a decree had been passed with a view to complete the levies of men necessary for the armies, requiring every person in the nation, between eighteen and forty, to march out as soldiers to join the armies, when called upon by certain commissioners named for that purpose. This severe and arbitrary measure, (which can in truth be viewed in no other light than as a law, authorising these commissioners to pillage at will every person of property, and to oppress those who have none,) it seems has failed to produce the intended effect; for the armies were nearly as deficient in numbers as before. Another decree, still more arbitrary and more despotic, was now passed, erecting a tribunal for the purpose of bringing to trial, and summary punishment, all persons suspected of uncivism, or entertaining antirevolutionary principles. This tremendous tribunal was to consist of six persons, and is to have power to summon before them whoever they please; and in a summary manner to examine all circumstances that may to them appear of a suspicious nature; and to pronounce immediate judgement; and execute these decisions without appeal. The decree is in the following words:

I. The Revolutionary Tribunal shall take cognizance of every enterprise, plot, and attempt against the liberty and sovereignty of the people, and the unity, indivisibility, and external, as well as internal safety of the republic; of every plan tending to establish royalty, and of every crime relating to the fabrication of forged assignats.

II. This tribunal shall consist of six judges, divided into two sections. Three members in each section shall be sufficient to examine facts denounced.

III. The judges shall be chosen by the National Convention, by the Appeal Nominal, and by a Relative Majority.

IV. To this tribunal shall belong a public accuser, and two assistants, named by the Convention in the same manner as the judges. A commission of six members shall also be appointed to draw up the decrees of accusation which may be passed by the Convention.

v. The jurors ſhall be in number twelve, and their ſubſtitutes three. They ſhall be taken from the department of Paris until the 1ſt of May next, an epoch when the electoral bodies muſt renew their jurors.

vi. Crimes againſt general ſafety, aſſigned heretofore to the cognizance of municipalities, ſhall in future be judged by the revolutionary tribunal.

vii. There ſhall be no appeal from the ſentence.

viii. Sentence paſſed in the abſence of the accuſed, ſhall have the ſame effect as if they were preſent.

ix. Perſons accuſed who ſhall not appear within three months, ſhall be conſidered as emigrants, and treated as ſuch.

During this ſtate of ferment and confuſion, Bournonville, the miniſter at war, gave in a letter to the Convention, containing his reſignation of that office, and requeſting permiſſion to go and ſerve in the army on the frontiers. This gave occaſion to violent debates, recriminations, and abuſe, in the Convention. Some members propoſing that the miniſter ſhould be interrogated as to his reaſons for reſigning, and others oppoſing it, Danton propoſed that miniſters in future ſhould be choſen from among the members of the Convention; but this motion *for the preſent* was not reliſhed. Finally, Bournonville's reſignation was accepted; but he was not permitted to join the army till his accounts ſhall have been paſſed.

Some time ago Condorcet read from the Committee of Legiſlation a new plan of a conſtitution for France, which has been now printed, and detailed in all the Engliſh newſpapers; but which our narrow limits prevent us from inſerting: and which ſeems indeed the leſs neceſſary, as it will not in all probability be ever carried into effect, ſeeing the Jacobin Club, the rulers of which direct every thing in France, have rejected it. The following is an extract from the papers on that ſubject.

Very vehement debates have taken place amongſt the Jacobins on the plan of a new conſtitution preſented to France. Anthoine ſaid, it was a maſterpiece of nonſenſe and treachery. Coutbon complained that a clear expoſition of the Natural Rights of Man was not to be found in it. The principle of reſiſtance to oppreſſion was expreſſed in an abſurd and moſt unintelligible manner. The theory of election was too complicated, and favoured the intrigues of the rich. Above all, he found it ridiculous to indicate a legal manner of reſiſting oppreſſions; as if, ſaid he, when an aſſaſſin is to be got rid of, time ought to be allowed him to conſummate his guilty deſigns.

The ſociety came to the following reſolutions. *That they conſidered the plan of the conſtitution as a public calamity, and would make inceſſant efforts to prevent the adoption of it by the people.*

The ſociety alſo took into conſideration the means of puniſhing ſuch deputies as had voted againſt the execution of the late king.

This plainly diſcovers, that the domineering party in France wiſh to have no check upon their power, even by the appearance of law; but that they only deſire to perpetuate that bloody ſyſtem of proſcription and aſſaſſination which they have hitherto ſo ſucceſsfully employed. Some faint attempts have been made by means of the mob, to try if the people are yet prepared

to go the lengths they wish, by proclaiming Egalitè regent; but this proposal was received with such marked disapprobation as to check their proceeding farther in that path for the present. These motions have been just sufficient to discover what is the ultimate object of their wishes.

Such is the present distracted state of France. The crisis now seems to be at hand; and we should by no means be surprised, if, in our next chronicle, we had occasion to announce some dreadful convulsion, which has once more precipitated many thousands to the grave, and others to misery and wretchedness, in that distracted country! Who does not wish that a speedy termination could be put to these multiplied scenes of confusion and disturbance!

Domestic.

The levies continue to go forward with increasing alacrity; and no man ever saw, in Scotland at least, such a number of recruits obtained in so short a time, either for the navy or land service, as at present. The nation seems, indeed, to believe, almost with unanimity, that the war was unavoidable; but they are as universally satisfied, that it is of great importance it should be of as short duration as possible. It is this sentiment animating every bosom, which has induced almost every description of men to exert themselves as if the success of the war depended on them alone, in order that, by the great vigour of our arms, the contest may be rendered so unequal as to terminate in a permanent peace almost at once. Even the members of opposition profess to have adopted the same principles. Administration, at the same time, professes that it has no desires hostile to France. And it is to be hoped these professions are sincere on both sides; for if they be, the nation at large will forward these views with the most cordial unanimity. Never, indeed, before did this nation seem to be so sensible of the mischievous tendency of war; nor was its effects ever so sensibly and so speedily felt as at present. Monied men have been so eager to avail themselves of the profits that they hope to derive from this *short spurt* of war, as it is generally supposed it will be, that they have called in their credits from the mercantile and manufacturing part of the community so rapidly as to have produced already very serious effects. Many bankruptcies in great banking houses, where the money was lodged at command, have already taken place; and more are feared. The discounting of bills, on which the credit of our very extensive manufactures greatly depends, has been almost universally discontinued, which occasions an unexpected scarcity of cash, that is severely felt, and which, if long continued, would be productive of very wide and mischievous consequences. Every one, therefore, who feels these inconveniences, looks forward towards the termination of the war with the most impatient anxiety; so that were administration to avoid embracing the earliest opportunity of terminating the war in such a manner as to insure the safety, without aggrandising the territories

of Britain, the popular tide would turn very quickly, and ebb with a greater degree of rapidity than it has flowed.

In parliament nothing remarkable has occurred since our last, unleſs it be the opening of the budget, which took place in a Committee of Supply on the 11th of March, when the minister, after giving in estimates of the expence, and stating the Ways and Means for the current year, found there would be a deficiency amounting to L. 2,900,000, which he proposed to raise by way of loan; and the bill proposed by the Attorney General, "For the more effectually preventing the holding treasonable correspondence with the enemies of his majesty's subjects, aiding, abetting, or comforting the said enemies." The intention of this bill is, in the *first* place, to prevent Britiſh subjects from sending to the enemies of this country, during the continuance of the war, supplies of arms, ammunition, victuals, or warlike stores of any sort. *2d*, To prohibit them from buying lands in France, or from vesting money in the French funds. *3d*, To prevent any persons from going to France, without his majesty's permiſsion under the privy seal. *4th*, To prevent any person from coming into this country from France, without certain precautions therein stated. And, *lastly*, To prohibit the insurance of French ſhips by Britiſh subjects. This bill is only announced, and has not yet been brought into parliament. It is a strong step; but whether the present circumstances of the country may not be sufficient to authorise it, we pretend not to say. We doubt not but administration will take care so to conduct themselves under its authority, as to give no just occasion for complaint. Some may think it has been too long delayed; and that, now, it is like ſhutting the stable door after the steed has been stolen.

The French have made a vigorous puſh to fit out a fleet at Brest which sailed some days ago, and is supposed to be now cruising in the chops of the channel, waiting for captain Gardener's rich convoy. It consists of seven ſhips of the line, and three frigates. By the last accounts, a fleet of nine ſhips of the line were ready to sail from Spithead in quest of it. Should it be so fortunate as fall in with and beat the French squadron, it is hoped that circumstance would contribute much to pave the way for a speedy termination of the war.

Miscellaneous.

In Ireland the Roman Catholic bill, which is meant to restore to the privileges of citizens that numerous body of men, having now nearly paſsed in parliament, though not without considerable opposition, seems to give very general satisfaction; and we would fain hope will contribute much towards eradicating that tendency to licentiousneſs, which has too long pervaded that fine country.

In the committee of Ways and Means, the Minister stated L. 500,000 as what he expected to obtain from the East India Company for a renewal of their charter. The terms on which this renewal is to be granted, are not yet finally adjusted. But it is proposed, *inter alia*, that the Company ſhould appropriate annually a certain tonnage of ſhipping for the transporting of Britiſh goods to India, at a freight much below the rate that has been hitherto charged.

News has been received of the ſafe arrival of captain Bligh in the West Indies, with a large aſſortment of plants of the bread fruit tree, and other vegetables from the ſouthern hemiſphere, in a ſtate of high preſervation. This is the firſt expedition we know of, (the preſent being conſidered as only the completion of captain Bligh's firſt voyage,) that has been fitted out by any European power for the ſole purpoſe of augmenting the happineſs and proſperity of mankind by a kind of traffic,—if a tranſporting of uſeful commodities from one part of the world to another deſerves that name, in which the party who makes that tranſportation, is to have no profit. This kind of intercourſe is, in fact, ſo unuſual, that it has not as yet obtained an appropriated name. Our gracious ſovereign has had the merit of planning and effecting it; and we hope he will live to ſee the happy effects that will reſult from it. May theſe be ſuch as to induce many others to follow his example!

William, earl Manſfield, who for many years occupied the higheſt law department in this country, with great honour to himſelf, and ſatisfaction to the public, died at Caen Wood on the 20th inſtant, in the eighty-ſixth year of his age. He is ſucceeded in his titles and great wealth by his nephew, lord viſcount Stormont, now earl Manſfield.

Manuel, who long made ſuch a conſpicuous figure in France, has been aſſaſſinated at Montagnis, his native place, to which he had lately retired, on finding the very violent and ſanguinary diſpoſitions of the ruling party in Paris. The pretext was his refuſing to be inrolled as a volunteer, having pleaded that he was exempted from that duty by the law, he being upwards of forty years of age.

It is alſo reported that Dumourier, on his arrival at Bruſſels, impriſoned the commiſſioners of the National Convention. It is certain that other commiſſioners are appointed to ſuperintend the army in Belgium. The intrepid Danton is one of that number. The proceedings of the commiſſioners have been ſo arbitrary in different places, as to occaſion great complaints. A deputation from Straſburgh was ſent to the Convention to accuſe the commiſſioners, who have been in conſequence of that recalled.

Bournonville having been re-elected miniſter at war, has agreed to hold that office till the month of May, at which time he ſays he means to go to fight the enemy on the frontiers.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17. 1793.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

SINCE our last, almost every day has produced events more disastrous to the ruling powers in France, than the former. Encouraged by the success of the combined armies in the Netherlands, the royalists have taken up arms in many parts in France; numberless skirmishes have taken place in various parts of the kingdom, some that might be called battles, between the patriots and royalists, (for such are the names assumed by the different contending parties,) without any decided advantage on either side, each party telling with exultation the numbers that have been put to death; but still the insurgents, as the royalists are called, seem to be increasing in numbers, and the National Convention are daily fatigued with applications from all quarters for additional supplies of troops to quell these insurgents. But the most formidable force of the royalists is at present in Britfany, where they have taken possession of all the strong posts; have got a train of artillery; and are said to be in arms to the amount of forty or fifty thousand. Great apprehensions are entertained lest they should be able to obtain possession of Brest, and by that means call in the assistance of Britain; for the popular cry is there, *vivent les Anglois, vive le Roy, vive l'aristocratie!*

So much are the ruling powers in France afraid that the English may profit by these internal commotions, that they have put a stop for near a fortnight past to all direct communication with England, so that full eight days elapsed without the smallest intelligence from thence having been received in Britain; a communication, however, is now opened thither by means of the Dutch Netherlands, through which channel news will be transmitted as regularly as before, though a little more slowly; but circumstances have now occurred that render it probable the usual channel of conveyance by Dover and Calais will soon be opened.

Dumourier had, in our last chronicle, suffered a considerable defeat on the 18th last, near Tirlemont. The combined armies pursuing their victories, obtained another decisive victory on the 22d; and on the 23d the French army were once more worsted, though Dumourier still kept his forces together in retreating. Brussels, Antwerp, Ghent, Bruges, Mons, and Ostend, successively fell into the hands of the Austrians; in all which places the French no sooner were gone than the inhabitants received the combined armies with the most extravagant emotions of joy as their deliverers. At Ostend, where the French had conveyed a great part of the plunder they had ob-

tained in Brabant, intending to transport it by sea to Dunkirk, their design was frustrated by admiral Macbride, who commands a squadron of small veſsels at the Nore, and who immediately on learning this intention, sent a few frigates to intercept these veſsels; no sooner did they appear before the town, than the French in that place thought proper to retreat; and the inhabitants having entreated the commanding officer to send ashore some troops to enable them to defend the place against any chance stragglers who might return for the purpose of pillage, a small number of marines were sent on shore, and the British flag was hoisted on the walls, where it continued till a detachment of the Austrian army came up to relieve them.

Breda and Gertrudenburgh, though now entirely cut off from having any communication with the French armies, were still defended by the French garrisons in these places, until March 26. when having received orders from Dumourier to make the best terms of capitulation they could, both these places were delivered up to the Dutch by capitulation upon honourable terms; the troops being allowed to march out with the honours of war, and to be safely escorted by the Dutch till they reached the French territories. Some demurrage took place about the Brabant corps which had joined them, the Dutch general at first insisting that they should not be included in the capitulation; but at length he wisely agreed that they should.

Defeat of Custine.

During this time, Custine having assembled all the forces he could, attempted to make a diversion on that side, and did push forward a little towards Hesse Cassel, having compelled an advanced party of Prussians to retire with loss. But on the 1st of April he was attacked in force by the king of Prussia near Bingen, and obliged to retreat with considerable loss. General Newingin, with fifty officers and 2000 men were taken prisoners. The Prussians have taken fifteen cannon, two standards, and a military chest containing 44,000 livres. The enemy have evacuated Worm and Openheim, and have retired towards Landau. The Prussian army is at present employed in blockading Mentz.

Dumourier ever since his retreat from Brabant, has been evidently much dissatisfied with the conduct of the ruling powers in France, and in particular he disrelished the conduct of the Commissioners, whom he treated with very little ceremony. After his defeat on the 18th of March he wrote the following letter to the minister at war.

" CITIZEN MINISTER, *Tirlemont, March* 19.

" It is with much grief that I give you an account of the fatal check which I have received. You will have seen by my letters of yesterday, that my presumptions in that respect were too well justified. On intelligence which I received of the danger of Namur, and of the approach of a body of nearly 10,000 men, who were directing their march towards Brussels and Louvain,

I thought I could not save the public cause, but by disposting the enemy from their camp of Neervinden. I formed the plan of an attack on the left wing of the enemy; the centre division attacked towards Neervinden; and the left wing of our army, commanded by Miranda and Champmorin, attacked towards the village of ———. The right and the centre had some succeſs, though the infantry fell back twice, and were driven from the village of Neervinden; the attack on the left was unsucceſsful. The retreat was made with confusion, even beyond Tirlemont, and perhaps much farther. Marſhal Mielen, the Commandant of the artillery, was killed, and two general officers were wounded in this retreat, or rather flight. We have lost a number of men, and a great many cannon, three of which were twelve pounders. I was ignorant of this defeat; and I was intending to make an attack next morning to complete the victory, when being uneasy that I received no accounts of Miranda, and hearing it whispered that he had retreated, I quitted the victorious part of the army on the approach of night, to get intelligence of the left. I was astoniſhed on proceeding to Tirlemont, that I had fallen in with no corps of the army; I gave orders to Miranda to resume his post on the heights of Sainte-Marguerite, to cover the retreat. I send you, Citizen Minister, a letter from General Valence, who has been wounded, and who has just set out for Bruſsels.

"I am going to resume the camp at Louvaine, to cover Bruſsels and Malines. I cannot conceal from you that misfortune and disorganization are at their height. I dread the fatal effects of this retreat in a country the inhabitants of which we have incensed against us by plundering and want of discipline. I ſhall do every thing in my power to save the army, which has ſhewn much confidence in me. I refer myself to their opinion. I ſhall readily submit my conduct to the strictest examination, and I ſhall myself demand a court martial to try me for what I have done, happy if the sacrifice of my life can be useful to liberty. Whether I lose it in combating for my country, or in consequence of being tried by it, I fear neither the judgement of my fellow citizens, nor that of posterity.

"You may readily judge that our loſs has been considerable; it amounts at least to 2000 men, I must render justice to the bravest soldiers in the universe, but they want experienced officers. I propose that the present mode of electing them may be suppreſsed. This mode does not produce talents; it commands no confidence, and does not obtain subordination.

(Signed) DUMOURIER."

In another letter of the 28th, addreſsed to Bournonville, he gave an account of the retreat of the body of the army under command of generals Neuilly and Ferrand, who, by the desertion of great numbers of volunteers, were obliged to evacuate the city of Mons, during the night of the capitulation of General Maraſse, military Commander of Anvers, who by that method, though not the most honourable, yet indispensably neceſsary, saved a body of 10,000 men. He added, that Colonels St Clair and Thouvenot were attacked without means of defence—that our military convoys were detained at Bruges—that he has sent forces in order to liberate those convoys—that he has given orders to garrison St Omer, Cambrai, and all the places on the line from Dunkirk to Givet.

In these and other letters Dumourier describes the army as in a state of the greatest disorder, and not having provisions for more than ten days: He

says that the pretended succours of men from the departments of the north, consist only of old men and children, who, so far from being useful, serve only to increase the confusion and consume the provisions. He declares, that if order and discipline be not restored—that if fifty authorities, each more absurd than the other, continue to direct all political and military operations, France is lost; he declares, that he, with a small number of brave men, would bury themselves under the ruins of their country. He affirms that it is impossible for him to stop the progress of the enemy, who, without amusing themselves with sieges, may, with an army of 20,000 cavalry, lay waste and reduce to ashes all that part of the country which is in the neighbourhood of Paris. Dumourier concludes this melancholy representation of the state of affairs, with bestowing eulogiums on the clemency and moderation of the Austrians, which were entitled to the more praise, as from the example of cruelty and outrage which the French had exhibited, a very different conduct on their part might have been expected. I, (says he,) have always affirmed, and I repeat it, that a Republic can only be founded on virtue, and that freedom can be maintained only by order and wisdom.

These letters, conjoined with the news of successive defeats, and the retreat of the army, occasioned great discontents, and excited much distrust against Dumourier and his officers. An order was issued to bring General Miranda to answer at the bar of the National Convention. Which summons he immediately obeyed; but on the arrival of the Commissioners from Belgium, they represented the conduct of Dumourier in such terms as set the whole Convention in a blaze.

CAMBACERES gave an account of the proceedings of the Commissioners of the Executive Power. Arrived at Valenciennes, they learned that General Dumourier was at Tournay. They repaired thither, and found him with Madame Sillery, with Pamela Egalite, and Valence. He was surrounded with deputations from the district of Cambrai. The interview was violent. Dumourier expressed himself in terms of invective against the Jacobins. "They will ruin France, (said he,) but I will save it, though they should call me a Cæsar, a Cromwell, a Monk." The Commissioners carried the conversation no further. They departed, and returned next day, determined to dissemble, in order the better to discover the extent of his views. Encouraged by their overtures, Dumourier no longer kept any bounds. He said that the Convention were a herd of ruffians, whom he all equally held in abhorrence. That all the volunteers were poltroons; but all their efforts would be in vain. "As for the rest, (added he,) there still remains a party—the Jacobins have only to cover with their bodies the survivors of the royal family, and to dismiss the Convention. If the queen and her children are threatened, I will march to Paris; it is my fixed intention; and the Convention will not exist three weeks longer." He then details a great many questions and answers in which Dumourier is represented as speaking of the Convention in terms of the highest contempt, and treating the Commissioners with the most haughty insolence.

The Convention instantly took fire at this, and proposed that Dumourier should be put under arrest; but before that time he had arranged matters with some of his officers, and carried his army back into France, where

he soon received intimation from his friends of the plots laid to ruin him. A decree ordering him to appear at the bar was carried against him in the Convention, and Bournonville, with five of its members, accompanied by a Secretary, were ordered to bring him a prisoner to Paris.

Of this he was informed before the Commissioners reached his army, and took measures accordingly.

It was the opinion of his friends, that, even independently of the intelligence he had received, the Convention, as a body, had shewn an imbecility and weakness on almost every occasion, that proved them altogether unqualified to legislate for France, which they had brought to the brink of destruction. It was agreed that means should be followed to impress the army with proper sentiments respecting the conduct of the Convention, in numerous instances, and particularly towards their General, who had shared every danger with them, whose valour they had all witnessed, and whose good conduct alone had preserved them from entire destruction, and enabled them to make a good retreat from a country which had received them as friends and brothers, but which had become their enemy by the exactions levied by order of the Convention, and the constraints put upon their freedom, after the honour of the French nation had been pledged that they should be left at free liberty to choose their own form of government.

The army, by the readiness with which they agreed to support their General, shewed, that before it was proposed they were almost to a man inclined to put an end to the tyranny of the Convention. Want of individual confidence alone had prevented them from proclaiming their sentiments to each other before.

The general voice was for restoring, with a few modifications, the constitution decreed by the first or constituent assembly, *viz.* a limited monarchy.

It is even believed that some of the Commissioners themselves approved of the measure.

When the Commissioners, on the 1st of April, reached the army, they were put under arrest, and sent next day with an escort to the Austrian army, as prisoners of war, and hostages for the safety of the royal family.

In the letter which Dumourier sent with them to General Clairfait, he calls the dauphin *the young king*, and offers some of the frontier towns as a security that he would perform the promise he had made, *to overthrow the Convention, and restore a monarchical government.*——The following letter puts this transaction beyond a doubt.

Copy of a letter from his Excellency General Clairfait to M. Count Starenberg, imperial minister at the Hague, dated Tournay April 2.

"I lose not a moment in communicating to your Excellency what M. Dumourier has just written to me, when he sent to our camp eight or nine prisoners this morning, four of whom, with General Bournonville, he says, were specially commissioned by the National Convention to arrest and con-

duct him a prisoner to their bar, and, on any resistance on the part of Dumourier to have him aſsaſsinated on the road :—"*But* (adds the writer,) "*I have been before hand with them, in securng these commiſsioners and their deputies as* MY *prisoners.*" These he has sent under a strong escort to the Prince de Coburg, after having put seals on their papers, &c.

"M. Dumourier transmitted me at the same time the inclosed list of the prisoners, and concludes by saying, "That he was that instant about to move with this trusty part of his army, in order to destroy all those who may further oppose themselves to the public good of France, and to give to that distracted kingdom permanent peace and tranquillity.'

"I have the honour to be your Excellency's, &c.

CLAIRFAIT."

List of prisoners referred to above: Bournonville, a General in the army, and War Minister. Memoire, a captain of Huſsars, his aid-du-camp. Villemure, Secretary Commiſsioner of the War Office, Camus,—Lamarque,—Quinette,— Henri Brucal, ditto.—Faucard, Secretary of the Commiſsion. These prisoners have been since lodged in the citadel of Maistrecht.

It is believed that Dumourier marched directly for Paris, and that Valenciennes and Lille are put into the poſseſsion of the Austrians, who are said to wait there in readineſs to act as occasion ſhall seem to require.

It has been confidently reported that Dumourier was fired upon by some unknown person among his own troops, and narrowly escaped being ſhot, on which he went off with a single regiment of horse, as was supposed, to join the Austrian army. It now appears that he joined the Austrians at Mons, accompanied with young EGALITE, who has now aſsumed the title of the duke of Chartres. Dumourier, though deserted by his own army, proposes still to raise another army of royalists in France: but whether he may not here also be disappointed a little time will ſhow.

A better idea may be obtained of the present state of mens minds, and the actual state of things in Paris from the proceedings of the Convention, and Clubs, than from any accounts transmitted by individuals. The following particulars are selected with that view; and exhibit a most striking picture of the horrible state of desperation that there prevails.

National Convention—March 30th.

DANTON—"The patriots are oppreſsed by the aristocracy. It is meant to murder them, by making the people believe that they have been tampering in Dumourier's plot. (He was interrupted by a vehement agitation in the Convention, and afterwards proceeded)—You reproach me, you who sit on the *mountain*, with not exerting all the energy of character which nature hath bestowed upon me. You accuse me of weakneſs. Very well! I confeſs my error, and I proclaim before all France that those who through stupidity or weakneſs meant to withdraw the tyrant from the sword of the law, are the same men who indulge in the inſolent practice of calumny. I am reproached with not repairing to the Committee at the moment of my return from Belgium—How could I?—Overpowered with fatigue, after paſsing several nights without rest, was it not natural to yield to this first call? Scarcely had I obtained a few hours of repose, when I repaired to the Committee, and I call to witneſs all who were present what were my first words.

"Dumourier must be watched. Dumourier is a traitor. Dumourier has said that the Convention consists of four hundred fools, led by three hundred ruffians"

"But Dumourier wiſhes for a king, and Danton is ſuspected of having been his partner in this audacious, this criminal idea—Danton, who, if I may say so, led the tyrant to the ſcaffold. But let us ceaſe to impute to innocence a crime, of which those only who had the wickedneſs to keep terms with Louis can alone be reasonably ſuspected,—those who endeavoured to exasperate Dumourier against the popular societies—those who wiſhed to puniſh the civiſm of Paris, by arming the departments against it—those who at clandeſtine suppers concerted plans of conspiracy with him. I defy the traitor to produce a single line of mine that can compromise me with him. If he can, let my head pay the forfeit." He concluded with proposing to levy fifty thousand men for the protection of Paris; and that the commiſsion above decreed ſhould take cognizance of all the deputies since the opening of the Convention, and of all publications against the unity of the Republic, &c.

OSSELIN, from the Committee of Surveillance, announced that a great number of deserters were flocking to Paris. He read a declaration of the Commandant of the light cavalry of Calvados, denouncing Dumourier and his aid du camp Baptiſte, formerly his valet de chambre. The Convention paſsed a decree for apprehending at the barriers of Paris all military men who ſhould not produce leave of abſence.

Decree that Baptiſte be put under arreſt.

Commune of Paris.

On the 25th of March, Chaumet informed the Council General of the Commune that the prisoners in the Temple being aſked if they had any complaint to make against the persons who attended them, said that they had great reason to be satisfied with the conduct of the Commiſsioners in the Tower; and that they wiſhed only for a door of communication between their apartments. A person was appointed to examine whether or not this request could be granted. On the 26th, one of the Commiſsioners accused his colleagues of conversing familiarly with the prisoners; and on the 1st of April, the Council General ordered that none of the Commiſsioners at the Temple ſhould hold familar conversation with the prisoners, nor execute any commiſsion for them; that two Commiſsioners ſhould be constantly with them; that no Commiſsioner ſhould read or receive any letters from them, which had not been previously read to the Council of the Temple; and that when the prisoners ſhould walk on the platform of the tower, they ſhould always be accompanied by three Commiſsioners and the Commandant of the post.

The clubs now exercise both the legislative and executive functions of government, and while they dictate to the deliberations of the Convention, iſsue their mandates with all the imperiousneſs of constituted authorities. In the club of the CORDELIERS, it was resolved on the 26th of March that DUMOURIER and the other commanders of the army ſhould be brought to Paris in order to be tried; "and if, (cried some of those present,) they escape the tribunal, they ſhall not escape us.

Sitting of the Jacobins —March 25.

A violent debate arose on the question, Whether the Society ought not to send Commiſsioners chosen from its own members to accompany those of the Convention into the departments?

BENTABOLE communicated to the Society the bad news received from Belgium; 800 million of expences, and 150,000 men conducted to slaughter. These are the fruits of all our conquest in the Netherlands.

An administrator of the department of Deaux Severes, after mentioning the troubles by which the territories of the Republic are desolated, cried out, "Rise! your enemies are in the midst of you,—crush them, or they will crush you! The people can only save themselves. Let them then—it is time!—Remember the 10th of August—March! You have not a moment to lose."

HERBERT.—"The counter revolution is in the Convention. Your Legislators are your tyrants—they are in concert with the Generals and the Executive power. Let the people then rise. The Convention, instead of saving, mean to betray us." [Several voices from the galleries here cried out, No more quarter—let us rise and strike!]

Another member.—Let us proceed to the Convention Let the Mountain be in force, and let them say to the people, here are your friends—there are your tyrants. This insurrection must be the last, for such shocks exhaust the machine; the blood of your enemies must run in large streams. At the same hour, on the same day, in all the towns, in all the villages, all the hamlets, and all the cottages throughout the kingdom, the heads of conspirators must roll in the dust."—Applauded with much transport.

March 27.

ROBERSPIERRE.—"The only means of saving ourselves are to declare war against our enemies, as they have declared war against us. Let us remember the 10th of August. Let us not go to ask the Convention whether it will save us—Yes, it will, but we must second it. I propose then, that all foreigners be banished—all the agents of the cabinets of Vienna and Berlin—all suspected persons.—You will ask me how they are to be discovered? Let a Revolutionary Committee, composed of warm patriots, be established in each Section. Banish from these Sections all the *ci-devant* nobles, priests, *&c.*"—Applauded.

Several members proposed different measures of general safety, but all agreed on the necessity of a new insurrection.

BOISSEL.—"As the law is not executed, the people must do justice to themselves."

March 31.

MARAT.—"Act with energy and courage. Behave like a true republican. Do as I shall do. If the enemy enter France, I shall draw my poignard and fall upon the traitors. [Here Marat drawing a dagger from his bosom, brandished it in his hand.] I am determined to die rather than bend the knee. The despair of liberty will give me death. I propose that a considerable number of such arms shall be manufactured and given to all citizens of known patriotism, who are not aquainted with military evolutions. Let us set on foot a subscription for this purpose. I myself shall make the first sacrifice to it."—This was adopted, and the subscription agreed to.

April 1.

ROBERSPIERRE made a long speech on the conduct of Dumourier, and mentioned the dangers to which liberty was exposed; but which, however, he observed, would appear more glorious after the severe proofs to which it had been put. "Some speak of giving you a king, (said he,) but it is not known that the fairest laurels which bind your brows, were plucked from the grave of the last of the Capets? and certainly no one will tear from you that mark of triumph, but with your lives."—He concluded with moving, that all the members of the family of Capet, as well as all the *ci-devant* nobles and priests, should be expelled.—Adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It now appears that the French squadron returned to Brest on the 2d inst, after having suffered considerable damage in a storm, without having made a single capture, or effected any of the other objects intended by it.

Admiral Goodal has captured and carried into Gibraltar above a dozen of vessels, nearly half of them French West Indiamen of great value.

Our cruisers continue to be successful in picking up privateers,—almost the only French vessels that are to be found in the narrow seas. Captain Cochrane of the Hinde brought in no less than four of these to Portsmouth at one time.

Nothing remarkable has occurred in parliament since our last, unless it be the debates on the alien bill, which has been opposed with much energy in all its stages. It has at length got through the House of Commons with several amendments.

The negociation with the East India Company respecting a renewal of their charter is not yet terminated. It seems at present as if the plan proposed by Mr Dundas would be agreed to.

Spain seems now to be determined to prosecute the war against France. A powerful army has already begun to march into the southern provinces of that kingdom. If our accounts can be relied on, the common people in Spain are much exasperated against the French, and treat them with great harshness.

Sweden has fitted out a fleet of considerable strength to cruise in the Baltic, for the purpose, it is said, of protecting her own trade. An ambassador has been dispatched from France, with the avowed intention of inducing that nation to act with them. If the cautious regent shall decline to do this, it is said the French mean to confiscate all the Swedish vessels in the ports of France.

Congress at Antwerp.

A congress was held at Antwerp, on the 8th inst. which was composed of the following persons.

The prince of Orange and his two sons,
The Dutch Pensionary Van der Speigel,
His royal highness the Duke of York,
Lord Auckland,
His royal highness the prince de Saxe Cobourg
Count Metternich,
The count de Staremberg,
The count Mercy d'Argenteau,
The Prussian, Spanish, and Neapolitan ministers, resident at the Hague.

The object was to settle a general plan for the prosecution of the war; and, as Dumourier's defection had produced no material alterations, to deter-

mine whether the combined armies should again attempt the invasion of France, or confining the French within their own frontier, and cutting them off from external communication, leave the restoration of monarchy to the efforts of the royalists within the kingdom, and the natural progress of discontent arising from distress among the people.

The ill success of the campaign of last year had taught the Austrians and Prussians the difficulties that must attend entering France; and produced declarations, that it was not their intention to dictate a form of government for the French, but to prevent the effects of those licentious principles which tended to the subversion of every established government.

By the congress, however, it was resolved to commence a plan of active operations against France, and instead of the chimerical project of marching directly to Paris, to besiege at once as many as possible of the strong places on the frontier, which will block up or call off the greatest part of the republican troops from the interior of the kingdom, and leave the royalists within it without much opposition. If these places fall, they will be immediately occupied by the troops of the combined powers, and serve as points to act from according to circumstances, while the fleets of England, Holland, and Spain are to form a chain of cruisers round the coast, ready to favour the royalists wherever they appear, and to cut off all supplies by sea, as the armies will do by land.

We know for certain, that the preparations for embarking our cavalry and other regiments destined for foreign service, were suspended on Monday, but these orders have been recalled, and the most vigorous exertions are now making to get ready their accoutrements, and the transports in which they are to embark. A descent on the French coast is supposed to be meditated.

The cessation of hostilities with the French is of course broken off. General Valence, who had availed himself of it, had gone to Antwerp, where he is now, to recover of his wounds.

Support of the private credit.

The inconveniencies to mercantile people and manufacturers arising from the want of credit continue to increase, and many bankruptcies in consequence of that have already taken place, and seem to threaten more. The magistrates of Liverpool have applied to parliament for an act to authorise them, under certain limitations, to support the credit of the banking houses there. And at Newcastle the inhabitants at large have adopted a measure equally liberal and salutary for supporting the credit of the banking houses there, which ought to be preserved to posterity as an honourable and characteristical trait of the spirit of the times.

A general meeting of the gentlemen, merchants, tradesmen, and inhabitants of Newcastle having been summoned on the 9th of April, to deliberate on the most effectual means of supporting the credit of the banking houses there on the present excessive run upon them; a committee of fifteen was appointed to inform themselves of the solvency of the banks, and to report to the meeting. The following was the result.

The report of the Committee.

We, your Committee, proceed *with satisfaction* to report what we have done in the execution of the important duty committed to us, because we have found in the funds of the respective banks of Ridley, Cookson and Co.— Surtees, Burdon, and Co. — Baker, Hedley, and Co. — and Lambton and Co. a stability beyond our most sanguine expectations.

These funds appeared so substantial, and so effective, that we found much difficulty in prevailing upon ourselves to accept the offer of those gentlemen, to pledge specifically their respective private real and personal estates, for the fulfilment of their banking engagements. But the offer was made with so much earnestness, that we have incorporated that measure into the plan we have to submit to your consideration.

Our inquiries were directed to the ascertaining with precision the amount of the paper issued by these banks, and now in circulation; and we learned that it did not exceed in the whole, two hundred and thirty thousand pounds; a sum which bears a small proportion to the amount of their funds. Adverting to their private fortunes, we found in them a security almost without limit.

In such circumstances, we deem the plan about to be proposed necessary, only because at such a juncture as the present, nothing ought to be omitted that may remove from the most distrustful, every particle of doubt and suspicion.

With this view, we suggest the propriety of all who are any way connected with the landed or commercial interests of this town and the adjoining counties, entering into a guarantee for the space of twelvemonths, securing to the holders of the notes of these banks the full sum due upon them. It is our idea that every gentleman should name the sum for which he will be answerable, and that proper persons should be authorised to call for the sums subscribed, or any part of them, if ever they should be necessary, to aid the funds of the banks; which, we confess, to us appears hardly possible. We have explained this branch of our plan, by preparing a subscription paper, signing it, and by adding, opposite to our names, the sums we are ready to advance, if called upon. It is intended that this subscription shall be kept open until it amounts to L. 230,000, the whole value of the notes in circulation; and that the gentlemen to whom this authority is committed, shall be of the highest respectability; and to them shall be given by the bankers that pledge of their private fortunes which they so honourably propose.

We wish to recommend to these gentlemen, not to resume their business till some day in the ensuing week, by which time it is evident to us that they will be fully enabled to answer every possible demand; and in the mean time, to issue such cash as may be necessary to answer the demands of all who are employed in the coal works and manufactories.

The proprietors of the Commercial Bank having stated to the public meeting yesterday, that it was not their intention to continue bankers; and having given the strongest assurances of their ability to answer every demand upon them, we did not think it necessary to examine particularly the state of their debts and credits; but we wish to recommend it strongly to the other bankers, that as soon as possible, every proper aid be given to that house to enable them to liquidate their affairs with the utmost dispatch.

We cannot conclude this report, without expressing ourselves highly satisfied with the conduct of the gentlemen of the four banks who gave us a meeting, and who, with that openness and liberality becoming men consci-

ous of their integrity, afforded us the fullest information concerning their circumstances and transactions.

James Rudman, chairman	St. Pemberton
Tho. Cha. Bigge	Sam. Lawton
Henry U. Reay	Nath. Clayton
John Graham Clarke	Ralph Heron
A. Adams	Malin Sorsbie
Walter Hall	Anth. Hood
T. E. Headlam	John E. Blackett
Wm. Darnell	

In consequence of this, the proposed guarantee was immediately entered into by the gentlemen present, and the sums subscribed before six o'clock in the evening amounted to THREE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED POUNDS.

Two regiments of emigrant French are to be raised in England, to consist of 1100; the duke d'Harcourt is to command one, and the marquis de Choiseul the other. They will embark from this country to act with the French princes the moment they are completed.

The duke of Richmond has introduced in the Sussex militia the *round hat*, which the artillery have taken by his Grace's recommendation. The effect is, that this corps has an appearance less smart than that of any other regiment in the kingdom.

By private letters from Brussels, we learn that generals *Miranda, Lanoue, and Stingen* have been executed at Paris.

Five thousand persons, most of them of rank, had been seized in consequence of the late decree of the Convention. Amongst them are many women of high rank. They are doomed to fall victims to the sanguinary disposition of the ruling faction in Paris; we may expect to be soon shocked by the horrid detail of another massacre.

The ships in the harbour of Bourdeax, laden with corn, which had been seized on the commencement of the war, have been since permitted to take in their cargoes and depart.

East India House, Wednesday April 3. A general court of proprietors was convened on special affairs, when a much greater number of stockholders were present than on any former recent occasion. As soon as the Chairman and Court of Directors were seated, the clerk read a paper sent by the court in reply to the resolutions communicated to the Chairman by Mr Dundas, which consisted of a long detail of observations upon the several resolutions, respectively couched in terms of great acuteness, and propriety, and pointedness of application. As soon as the paper was read, Mr Baring (the chairman) produced a resolution, which he submitted to the opinion and decision of the general court. Its purport was, to declare their approbation of the answer given by the Court of Directors to Mr Dundas, on the subject of the resolutions communicated by him, as the resolutions which that Right Honourable Gentleman intended to submit to the House of Commons, as the terms on which the legislature might in his judgement agree to grant to the Company a new charter, securing to them a continuance of their exclusive trade for the period of twenty years.

This motion, after a conversation of some length, was agreed to unanimously.

Some resolutions were then moved and passed respecting the future regulations of shipping, &c. After which the court adjourned, the chairman observing, that from the urgency of their affairs, he might probably very soon have occasion to call another meeting.

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